



New clues in evolution: PC theologian weighs in/Page 8



Religion: The Papacy
Pope's comments on Islam: Progressive, or problematic? Campus opinions/Pages 9 & 12



Reginold: Just a hunk of burning love... for a car, anyways/Page 17

"IT'S HERE BECAUSE IT'S TRUE—
NOT TRUE BECAUSE IT'S HERE."

The Cowl



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SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

Whooping cough case reported at PC

JENNIFER JARVIS '07
NEWS EDITOR

Just when the buzz from one contagious disease dies down, another is upon its heels. The Student Health Center was notified this week that a faculty member at the College has been diagnosed with pertussis, or whooping cough.

According to an e-mail from the health center on the topic, whooping cough is an infection of the respiratory

system, characterized by a severe cough that results in a "hoop" sound when the person inhales. It is communicated through respiratory discharges from sneezing, coughing, and laughing.

A separate e-mail, sent out to students and other close contacts of the faculty member stressed that "There is no need for alarm." Whooping cough is not life-threatening to the college age group.

"The most concerning part" for college students is "you're sick for a long time," said Cathrine M. Kelleher, RN, director of student health. "It disrupts your studies."

Pertussis starts off with symptoms like those of the common cold, but it becomes worse after one to two weeks. The cough becomes nagging and develops into coughing spells, sometimes to the point of vomiting. Sometimes symptoms can take as many as 21 days to appear after becoming infected.

When notified by the faculty member of the pertussis case, Kelleher alerted the administration and the Rhode Island Department of Health. She said that she is required to report certain diseases to the health department when she becomes

aware of a case. Pertussis is one disease on the list, which Kelleher says is mandated to be reported probably because it is so contagious, "though it's not typically one that affects this age group," she said.

The vaccination for pertussis is given in installments and is generally given to a child at two months, again at four and six months, and again at 15 to 18 months, Kelleher said. A booster shot is given between four and six years old. The disease is most dangerous to babies under one

PERTUSSIS/Page 3

Pinching pennies:

Seven clubs left without funds

KERRY BERGIN '09
NEWS STAFF

This Tuesday, PC Congress voted unanimously to approve allocations for clubs and organizations on campus. Congress was granted \$361,000 to distribute among

41 fund-receiving clubs, an increase of \$4,480 from the 2005-06 academic year's allocated funds.

Although all clubs maintained their status as participating PC organizations this year, seven clubs did not receive any funding. Yara Youssef '08, a member of Student Congress' Committee on Finance, said if a club did not receive funding this year, it was most likely because it did not arrange a meeting with Congress. This does not, however, prevent a club from applying for funding for next year.

The funding that once went to these seven clubs was divided among the clubs that did receive funding this year. As a result, many club budgets increased, but still haven't reached their desired funding, according to Jesse DePatsy '09, president of the Class of 2009.

This year, the Board of Programmers (BOP) was granted \$170,500, according to the allocations legislation approved on Tuesday. Because BOP traditionally receives a large amount of money, representatives arranged two additional meetings with Congress to discuss the proper use of funds, said Youssef.

Patricia Wagner '07, president of Amnesty International, said that, although her club didn't receive funding, Amnesty International members plan to co-sponsor events with clubs that did receive funding.

ALLOCATIONS/Page 3

Freshmen candidates hope to leave their mark on school

BETH FINAN '07
NEWS STAFF

While congressional and gubernatorial races are heating up around the nation this fall, the Providence College campus is also abuzz with campaign fever. The buzzwords here are not terrorism, taxes, and the Iraq war, but rather unity, fundraising, communication, and soap in the bathrooms.

Ten members of the Class of 2010—Owen Bligh, Elizabeth Card, Francine Chi, Justin Ferrante, Dan Gittings, Jessica Grandchamp, Brian Jacques, Alex Neus, Mike O'Connor, and Jaimie Scambio—are running for class president, while four—Kristen Albanese, Lauren Birnie, Deanna Lefrancois, and Jeff Norte—have thrown their hat in the race for secretary.

Almost every candidate mentioned the importance of unity for the freshman class.

Jacques said he would like to "unite the freshman class as a family that will work together to progress through the year, expanding intellectually, spiritually, and socially."

Card said that she came from a close-knit high school and would like to feel the same "cohesiveness" in college.

"It's a small enough campus that we can become one unit and help and support along the way," she said.

Scambio said she sees this year as an important year to "set a foundation for the next four years."

According to some candidates, fundraising is both a necessary activity and a way to develop the highly desired school spirit and class unity.

"I would like to plan class events and fundraisers that support class unity," said Chi. "Because the freshman class was allocated very little funding, I plan to raise money for our class so that we can organize events in our upperclassmen years at PC."

Norte said one of his main goals was to "raise as much money for junior and senior years while still making freshman and sophomore years as fun as they can be."

"I want to emphasize fundraising this year for Student Congress and the fresh-

FRESHMEN/Page 4



CHRISTINE DIEHL '09/The Cowl

Kelly Jones '07, left, and Monica de Aguiar '07 sign a peace banner at the completion of the peace rally on Slavin lawn last Thursday.

Students rally for peace

CHRIS DONNELLY '08
NEWS STAFF

Peace, love, and harmony were sentiments that college students across the nation expressed during the 1960's. On Sept. 21, PC students revived this same spirit by holding a peace rally in front of Slavin. Approximately 70 people attended the second annual peace rally, which celebrated International Peace Day and was organized by Amnesty International and the PC Democrats.

Music played as students gathered in front of the Slavin Center steps before the rally began at 8:00 p.m. A table was also set up for anyone who wished to sign The

Declaration of Peace Pledge, which calls for a "comprehensive end to the U.S. war in Iraq."

"The focus of our rally, is pro-peace, not anti-war," said Kevin Roe '07, president of the PC Democrats.

To begin the rally Lisa Hofer '09, a member of Amnesty International, introduced Colleen Rosati, who sang "Somewhere" from the musical *West Side Story*.

The first speaker of the night was Rev. Nicanor Austriaco, O.P., assistant professor of biology, who brought a religious perspective to the topic of peace. He said that peace was a theme of the Christian tradition. The type of peace discussed by Father Austriaco and the night's other

PEACE/Page 6

INDEX

CAMPUS CALENDAR	2
POLL QUESTION	7
WORLD	8
WEEK IN REVIEW	9
COMMENTARY	10
A & E	13
PORTFOLIO	17
ROVING	20
PC SCOREBOARD	21
SPORTS	BACK PAGE

NEWS briefs**PC T.V. takes off**

Ian Orefice '07 said he was watching *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* last winter when he decided PC should have its own late night show. After talking with Dan Cullinane '07, president of the Class of 2007, the two concocted the idea of PC having an entire television station. In February, they proposed their idea to Rev. Kenneth Sicard, O.P.

"My role has been to offer support to Ian and Dan as they have taken the initiative," said Father Sicard. "It would be a great benefit to students. It is amazing the amount of students that have expressed interest."

This October, PC T.V. will become a reality.

"It has taken several meetings with the administration, general counsel, and academic media services over the spring, summer, and now the fall to start PC T.V.," said Orefice.

Entirely student-run, PC T.V. is divided into news, sports, and entertainment. According to Orefice, the news portion will run a news show, a political show, and "special interest pieces." Sports will have its own Sports Center-type show and will film various PC athletic events.

In addition, it will follow student athletes for a day. The entertainment portion will focus on the late night show, filmed in McPhail's on Wednesday nights before an audience.

"Students can be as creative as they want and can make any show such as *Cribs*, or even dating shows under the entertainment department," said Orefice.

For technical support, Academic Media Services (AMS) is allowing access to their cameras, lights, and a MAC computer for digital films.

"We [AMS] are trying to stay hands off as much as possible, but are here for support," said Bernie Colo, director of Academic Media Services. "This is student creativity at its best."

Through PC T.V., Orefice said creativity among all students will be promoted and provide campus unity, as various clubs will be allowed to advertise on the station. Numerous campus events will be filmed and later shown on the channel.

"PC T.V. hopes to provide a realistic environment in which aspiring students can gain experience within the television experience on campus," said Orefice.

Students interested in applying to PC T.V. can e-mail Orefice at ioreface@providence.edu. Orefice said positions from creative writing to editing to on-camera talent and production staff are needed. On-camera applicants will also have to audition. Orefice also said students who apply will not be denied a chance to work.

Auditions have already begun and almost 100 students have applied for various jobs. PC T.V. is set to be launched on October 12.

—Beth Lenehan '08

Father Shanley announces School of Business at Faculty Senate meeting

During the first Faculty Senate meeting of the year on Wednesday, Sept. 27, Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., president of the College, delivered an address in which he announced the creation of a School of Business for the College.

While some may consider it a radical change, Father Shanley insists that it is only an issue of semantics. PC has been engaged in the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)

accreditation process, which is the "hallmark of excellence in management education," according to AACSB's Web site. PC's business departments have already been grouped together as a division, so changing the name would not drastically alter the function of the institution.

What it will do, Father Shanley said, is allow the College to attract better candidates for the proposed deanship that will head the new school. Additionally, Father Shanley said he sees the advantage a school confers upon fundraising efforts.

"I think donors are more interested in giving money to a school than a division," he said in his address to the senate.

Accreditation of PC's business program will greatly benefit not only the students who graduate with a business degree, but other students, faculty, and the College as a whole, argued Faculty Senator Dr. A. Cemal Ekin.

Supporters of the plan stressed that neither the process of accreditation nor the creation of a School of Business will detract from the College's liberal arts mindset.

"What we do in our core . . . will shape our students far more than what I hope will be the School of Business," Father Shanley said.

The Faculty Senate was, however, aware of the potential pitfalls that the creation of a separate School of Business might entail. There is a possibility for the creation of a School of Arts and Sciences—to counterbalance the new business school for administrative purposes—but that is something that will be looked at further down the line, Father Shanley said.

Additionally, he reiterated that he has no intention to make PC a university—so students don't have to worry about getting a

degree from "PU" or "UP."

The meeting was a crucial one concerning the future direction of the College, and the faculty members are well aware of that fact.

"[The meeting] was very important in the sense that it expressed the various constituencies' concerns about decisions and decision making," said Dr. Margaret Manchester, a member of the Faculty Senate.

While accreditation is not an overnight process, some believe the creation of the School of Business is an indication that progress is being made toward that end.

—Kevin O'Brien '07

Parking reaches full capacity

Starting immediately, the Office of Safety and Security will begin ticketing and towing all cars on campus without a valid parking sticker.

Non-commuter students will also be ticketed if found in the commuter parking lot, the gravel lot currently located behind the Suites, which is accessed via Eaton Street. This temporary lot will revert to a softball field upon completion of Peterson Field and Garage.

The Office of Safety and Security advises students whose cars do not have a valid permit to make arrangements to have this car taken home or off campus.

There will be no more parking passes issued because parking on campus is presently at full capacity.

—Jennifer Jarvis '07

CALENDAR

Sept. 29 to Oct. 5

CAMPUS

29 Friday	30 Saturday	1 Sunday	2 Monday	3 Tuesday	4 Wednesday	5 Thursday
1:30 p.m. Exploring careers or majors for freshmen and sophomores in Slavin 117. 4:00 p.m. Fridays at Four student performance in the Smith Center for the Arts 8:00 p.m. Comedy night: Jonathon Gates in Slavin Center '64 Hall	12:00 p.m. "Barbecue and Boogey" featuring Capitol Hill and Funky Wayback Machine on Slavin Lawn 7:00 p.m. Damian the hypnotist in McPhail's	11:00 a.m. Gospel brunch with Holy Name's choir performing in McPhail's	4:30 p.m. Lecture and demonstration by Beth Soll in Smith Center Dance Studio 6:00 p.m. Ethnic Food Festival in Slavin Center '64 Hall 6:30 p.m. International Student Panel discussion in Slavin Center '64 Hall	1:30 p.m. Community service fair on Slavin Lawn 5:30 p.m. Mayor David N. Cicilline lecture on unity and diversity in Slavin 112	3:00 p.m. Study abroad information session in '64 Hall 4:30 p.m. Faces of America performance in Bowab Studio, Smith Center 6:00 p.m. "What Type of Student Are You?" workshop in Slavin Center '64 Hall	4:00 p.m. Randall chair lecture on Theology and Naturalism in Ryan Concert Hall, Smith Center 5:00 p.m. Career Fair in Slavin Center Rooms 112, G01, and '64 Hall

Breakfast of Champions

Fall 2006

Breakfast of Champions is a leadership series for PC students at all levels of experience. Sessions are held on Tuesdays at 8:30am in McPhail's, and breakfast is always provided.

Hungry for leadership training?
Sign up today!

For more information or to register, stop by the SAIL Office in Slavin 104. A \$5 refundable deposit is required of all participants.

McPhail's Weekly Line-Up!

Thursday, 9/28: Piano Night w/ Verzino. Come down and request some of your favorite songs. Full bar w/ proper ID at 8pm.

Friday, 9/29: Classic Traxx Live! 9pm! Full bar w/ proper ID at 4:30pm.

Saturday, 9/30: \$5 Prom Party! Your wardrobe can not be worth more the \$5! Full bar w/ proper ID at 8pm.

Monday, 10/2: MNF! Greenbay at Philadelphia. Free give-aways! Kick off at 8:30. Full bar w/ proper ID at 8pm.

Wednesday, 10/4: Pool League at 5pm.

Allocations: Money at the root of all clubs

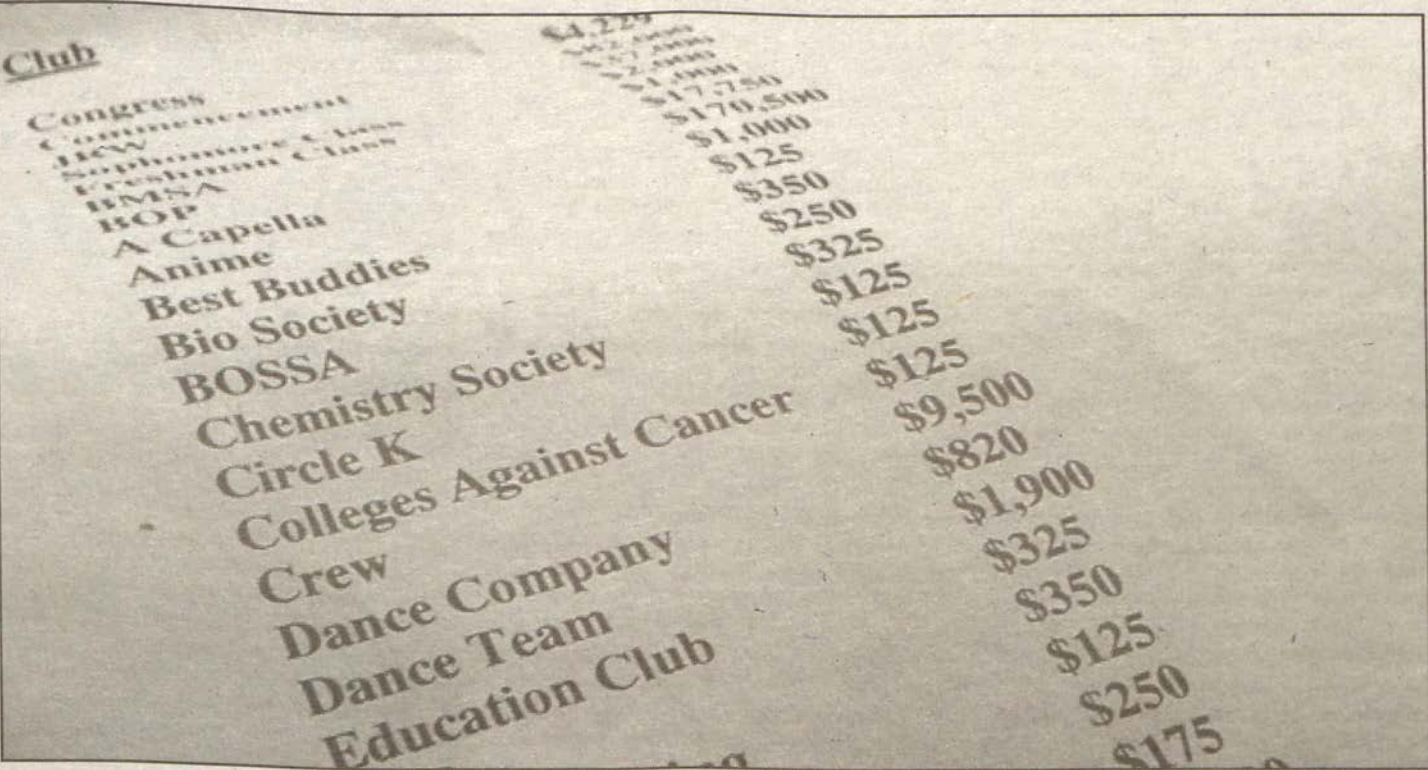
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and also hold fundraisers. The allocations process is a long one, Youssef said, but this ensures that clubs are treated fairly and that the money is going to the best use.

“Youssef said that most clubs do not receive the funding they ask for because the activity fee does not increase as quickly as the number of clubs and club activities does.

” A portion of student activity fees, which are paid with tuition at the beginning of the year, fund clubs and organizations on campus, said Youssef. Jonny Styron '07, treasurer of Student Congress and chair of the finance committee, said that in addition to Congress, the activity fee is divided among other organizations on campus, including the Office of Student Activities-Involvement-Leadership (SAIL)/Slavin Center, Friars Club, WDOM, Veritas, and Campus Ministry, which was granted \$25,000 this year.

The allocations process began in the spring of 2006, when presidents and treasurers from PC clubs met with Congress' finance committee to propose a budget for the 2006-07 academic year. In individual meetings, clubs presented a detailed list of events and activities and an estimate of



A list of the allocation money distributed by Congress includes 41 organizations this year. Seven clubs, however, will receive no funding, as they did not meet with Congress to discuss their funding beforehand.

how much money each would require. The proposed budgets were then sent to Congress, where members decided on how best to divide the money they were granted based on the need of each club. Club representatives have the right to petition in front of Congress if they feel that their club was not granted adequate funding. A two-thirds majority is needed to approve a

budget. Last year, the activity fee allowed Congress to distribute \$356,520 among the clubs. Youssef noted that most clubs do not receive the funding they ask for because the activity fee does not increase as quickly as the number of clubs and club activities does. To avoid this disappointment for

clubs in years to come, Youssef said, the activity fee must be raised or sport-clubs must be separated from regular clubs and have different financial means. DePatsy added that it will be difficult for new clubs to get a cut of the allocations money next year since currently existing clubs will expect at least as much money as they were allocated this year.

Multicultural Alumni Weekend to start Friday

JENNIFER JARVIS '07
NEWS EDITOR

Approximately 80 alumni are expected to return to PC for a multicultural alumni reunion, which will take place Friday, Sept. 29, through Sunday, Oct. 1. The event, developed by the Office of Institutional Advancement and the Black Alumni Committee, will embrace the theme, "Bringing the Family Home," according to the brochure on the weekend. The weekend will feature several events that are open to students, including a per-

formance by Jonathon Gates, dubbed the "Bad Boy of Comedy," on Friday, and a "Barbecue and Boogey" on Saturday. Tickets are \$5 for students. The Black Alumni Committee hopes to raise at least \$50,000 to help endow the Rev. Robert A. Morris, O.P. Scholarship. The Board of Multicultural Student Affairs (BMSA) has played a critical role

in carrying out the event. According to Polyana De Oliveira, president of BMSA, students from the club are going to volunteer at the events. In addition, they have been selling student tickets to the comedy show and barbecue. De Oliveira has also been attending the planning meetings for the weekend. "I helped plan the cookout on Saturday," she said, adding that she secured the student band, Capitol Hill, for the event. Composed of PC students and alumni, the band plays original and cover songs, according to De Oliveira. The other band at the barbecue will be The Funky Wayback Machine, playing "Old-School, original '70's and '80's dance and R&B

music," according to the brochure. The main event of the weekend will honor Rev. Robert A. Morris, O.P., who graduated from PC in 1944. According to the brochure, Father Morris was one of the authors of the MLK Scholarship Program. The Black Alumni Committee hopes to raise at least \$50,000 to help endow the Rev. Robert A. Morris, O.P. Scholarship. The scholarship fund, established in 1997, will eventually support PC students who graduated from Regis High School, Father Morris' alma mater, and other Catholic high schools in New York City. A dinner dance will honor Father Morris on Saturday evening.

Listing of events for Multicultural Alumni Weekend

Friday, September 29	8:00 p.m. Jonathon Gates, "Bad Boy of Comedy," in 'Slavin Center '64 Hall	4:30 p.m.—Reunion Mass in St. Dominic Chapel	Sunday, October 1
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.—Martin Hall open house and reunion check-in			11:00 a.m.—Gospel brunch in McPhail's
6:30—Get Reacquainted reception in Slavin Soft Lounge	Saturday, September 30	6:00 p.m.—Tribute dinner dance to Rev. Robert A. Morris, O.P. '44 in Peterson Recreation Center	1:30 p.m.—Campus walking tour, starting in Lower Slavin Center.
	Noon—Barbecue and "Boogey" on Slavin Center lawn		

Pertussis: 'Whoop' there it is

continued from front page

year and any other children who haven't had the full vaccine yet. Because children under one year old have not had the entire vaccine, contracting whooping cough at this age can be fatal. According to Kelleher, a new vaccine for pertussis became available last year. Instead of the multiple doses needed with the old vaccine, this new vaccine is administered one time.

When a person displays symptoms of pertussis, a test is ordered and is sent to the Department of Health. Once a person is diagnosed with whooping cough, an antibiotic can be prescribed. There is not, however, a preemptive antibiotic to give people who may have been exposed to the disease. Kelleher advised students that a good way to prevent pertussis and most diseases is to take care of oneself. Frequent hand-washing, adequate sleep, and a balanced diet were among her suggestions on how to

stay healthy. "Just be good to yourself," she said. Though Kelleher says she will not send out an e-mail every time a student gets sick, she will continue to notify students when the case is reportable to the Rhode Island Department of Health. But Kelleher said she hopes she will not have to send one of those e-mails any time soon. "Let's hope it ends with this one," she said.

Freshmen: Hopefuls campaign for president and secretary

continued from front page

man class, possibly organizing a Battle of the Bands-type event or selling something, maybe hats or flip flops," said Grandchamp.

However, if the soon-to-be elected members of Students Congress do not communicate their accomplishments to the class, they will not have succeeded, a fact that is not lost on the candidates.

"I hope to allow everyone to know what is being worked on and has been completed through the visible results on campus," said Bligh.

"I will dedicate time and effort into keeping up with all correspondence and distributing the minutes properly to keep everyone informed and happy," said Albanese.

Specific changes the candidates would like to see ranged from "adjusting the meal plan for freshman"—a main goal for Birnie—to improving safety, which O'Connor cited as important after his friend was mugged recently.

Gittings said he would like to see improvements in the residence hall bathrooms.

"A vote for Dan is a vote for soap in the bathroom," said Gittings. "Enough of the

Purel things in the bathroom. If elected, I will strive to get us hand soap and paper towels in our bathrooms."

Despite having many grand plans of their own, all of the candidates emphasized the importance of listening to their peers' ideas as well.

"My main goal is to learn what it is the freshmen want and do what it takes to fulfill their requests," said Ferrante, who said he would also like to see more freshmen at Student Congress meetings.

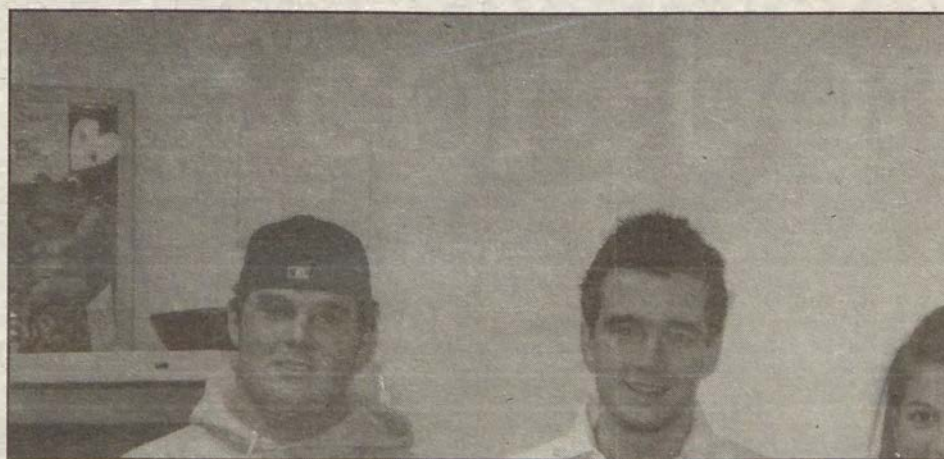
"As Providence College students, we deserve to have a voice in our school," said Lefrancois. "As secretary, I will provide that opportunity. I will listen to your opinions and thoughts."

"It is my goal as president of the class of 2010 to serve my fellow peers in a manner that is informative, productive, and enthusiastic," said Scambio.

Overall, the candidates are expecting the Class of 2010 to make a huge splash in the college community.

O'Connor said he would like "to leave Providence College a better place than I found it."

"My most important goal for the Class of 2010 is to see that our class becomes a legend," said Neus.



Class of 2010 candidates for president, back row, from left to right: Brian Jacques, Justin Ferrante, Jaimie Scambio, Francine Chi, Jess Grandchamp, Dan Gittings. Seated, from left to right: Mike O'Connor, Alex Neus, Elizabeth Card, and Owen Bligh.



Class of 2010 candidates for secretary, from left to right: Jeff Norte, Kristen Albanese, Lauren Birnie, and Deanna Lefrancois.



Class of 2010 candidates for representative, back row: Meredyth Lacombe, Megan Breen, Kevin Angliss, Allison Ferlito, Michael Scione, Christopher Huber, Brendan Shine. Second row, left to right: Andrea Petrosino, Ben Gatti, Krissy Phillipino, Andrew Edgett, Ashley Buglio, Elian Seidel, Joelle Hogan, Katie Brennan. Front row, left to right: Tara Heinemann, Carly Mance, Jaqueline DeSisto, and Megan Mensinger.

All photos by Mary Pelletier '09

Vote on ANGEL on Thursday, Oct. 4, through Friday, Oct. 5, at 4:00 p.m.

Campaign integrity brought into focus

Candidates must abide by specific campaign rules in the days leading up to the election. According to a campaign information sheet, candidates can only campaign between Thursday, Sept. 21, and Tuesday, Oct. 3, though no verbal campaigns are allowed on election days. In addition, campaigning with mail box stuffers, table tents, chalk, clothing, voice mail, or e-mail is not allowed. But one candidate violated another important rule—references to alcohol or illegal drugs in one's campaign are forbidden.

According to Jesse DePatsy '09, president of the Class of 2009, the student "referenced alcohol in a Facebook group" about his campaign. DePatsy said that this violated one of the campaign stipulations set forth by Student Congress, as drinking is an illegal activity for the mostly under-21 freshmen.

"It shouldn't be used as a campaign technique," DePatsy said.

Vanessa Coelho '08, election chair for the freshman elections, noted that in light of voter fraud in the Class of 2008 elections last spring, Student Congress has been increasingly serious about campaign integrity, as Congress is such a high-profile group on campus. She said Congress represents certain values and that if a candidate does not support these values, he or she should not run.

"That's not what Congress is about," Coelho said.

Candidates are speaking out against this sort of violation as well.

"Negative campaigning is a voter turnoff," said Ben Gatti '10, candidate for representative.

"There's a definite line between how you act professionally and socially, and those are two aspects that shouldn't be mixed when you're in a campaign such as this," said Amanda Sorkin '10, candidate for treasurer.

Other candidates are frustrated with the Facebook method of campaigning.

"I'm tired of people spamming my inbox with mail," said Andrea Petrosino '10, candidate for representative.

Though Facebook campaigns might be overwhelming to voters, it is a viable option for candidates who have exhausted their poster quota. Candidates are allowed only 10 poster boards, which may be displayed on kiosks and Slavin bulletin boards. But with 45 freshmen running for a position, space is tight.

"I think we should have more areas to put up signs," said Elian Seidel '10, candidate for representative.

Coelho said she is nevertheless enthusiastic about the elections, noting that of 120 freshmen who attended the information session, 45 are running.

"It shows that they want to get involved," she said.

—Jennifer Jarvis '07



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'64 Hall, Slavin Center

Thursday, October 5, 2006
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A research project sponsored by Brown University and the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

VP and treasurer candidates reveal plans for Class of 2010

RICK KURKER '09

NEWS STAFF

The race for the position of Student Congress Vice President for the Class of 2010 is heating up, as all six candidates have big plans for their class.

STUDENT CONGRESS Candidate Brian Allen '10 said his focus is on making the Class of 2010 feel like a family. He said he has already met many Providence College students and looks forward to getting to know more of his classmates personally. Allen said that his dedication, service to others, and accessibility qualify him as a good leader who would be a prime candidate for the vice presidency.

"My goals as vice president would be to work on bringing our class together, hearing your ideas on how to make our four-year Providence College experience a successful one, and making the modifications and changes you want as a freshman class," Allen said.

He added that he hopes this will be a learning experience that will allow him to immerse himself in everything and help his classmates to "feel like a family in our new home."

Megan Bennett '10 is also vying for the position of vice president. Bennett said that if elected, she will be a friend as well as a vice president and is always open to new ideas. Her plans for the freshman class include creating a stronger sense of community and class spirit, allowing her fellow classmates the opportunity to voice their opinions and distinguishing the Class of 2010 in Providence College history.

"As vice president, I would not only be accessible to the student body, [but] I would also be willing to listen to the cares and concerns of students who want their voices to be heard," Bennett said. "In doing this, all the members of our class would have a hand in how our school is run."

Bennett's ideas for events include, but are not limited to, themed dances, cook-outs, class trips, and other class get-togethers.

Andrew Kelley '10 said he has a passion for politics, a knack for strategic planning, and plenty of political experience. Kelley has worked for the Rhode Island Governor's Office and the Rhode Island House of Representatives Education Policy Office. He has also learned a lot from his parents and grandmother, all of whom have held important political positions. Kelley said that he is a unique candidate because rather than making promises he may not be able to keep, he will create a strategy to put his plans for the Class of 2010 into action. Quoting St. Augustine, he said, "One prays for miracles but works for results."

"I will not be the tool of the particular interests of any group of students," Kelley

said. "I'll be your voice, fighting for your needs... Our class possesses the power to achieve greatness."

Kelley said he welcomes input from others and encourages his fellow classmates to stop him if they have any questions for him.

Katie McBride '10 said her main goal for the Class of 2010 is to promote unity among her fellow classmates. She said she hopes to assist the class president to the best of her ability, as well as raise money for freshman events and increase school spirit. McBride said that she wants to create events that will allow students to have fun during the week, not only on the weekends.

"My goal is to get to know the freshman class, and through meeting them, I want to learn what they want for their school so every student will be excited about being a part of the Providence College community," McBride said.

She said she also wants to run more events so that everyone will love being at Providence College.

Kayla Rowland '10 said she has six basic goals for the year. Her first goal is "to have a strong voice in the College government." Her second goal is to raise money via fundraisers, and her third goal is to be a strong representative for the Class of 2010. Her fourth goal is to strive to improve student life on campus. Her fifth goal is to support sports at all levels, and her sixth and final goal is to support music and the arts.

"I will focus on listening and make sure everyone is involved," said Rowland.

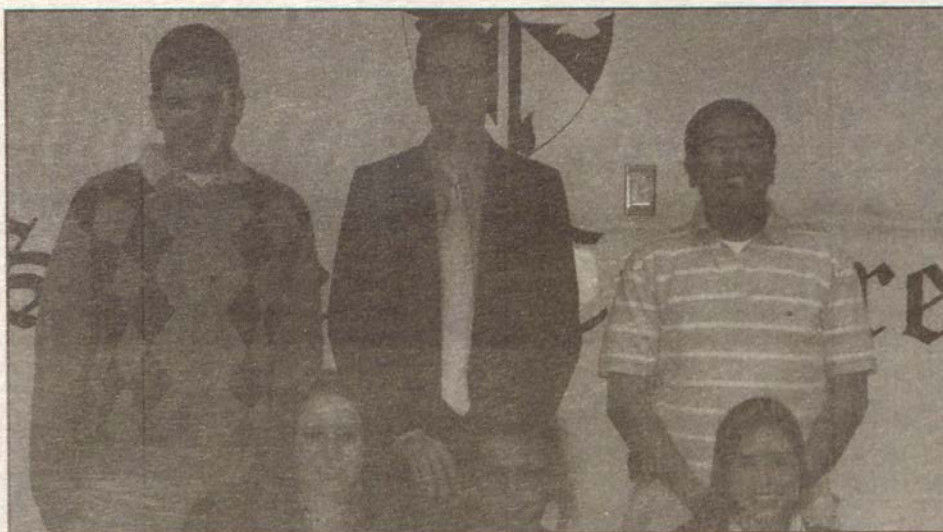
Thuyet The To '10 said he wants classmates to feel like family rather than acquaintances. To would like to hold more fundraisers both on and off campus and has many ideas for events to hold on campus. For instance, he said he plans to propose a competition among the colleges in the Providence area that would be modeled after the Olympics and could involve a variety of activities, from dancing to sports. To said that such an event would both raise money and increase school spirit.

"I hear many times during the week that there simply isn't anything to do on campus since it is a school night and people do not want to leave campus," To said. "Therefore I would suggest having more nighttime activities such as dances and socials."

Treasurers ready to make change

There are six candidates for the position of Treasurer of the Class of 2010.

Arianna Brown '10 is a math major, so she is used to working with numbers. Brown said she hopes to raise money through events such as dance competitions, costume parties, and lip syncs. All would have admission fees but would also



Class of 2010 candidates for vice president, back row, from left to right: Brian Allen, Andrew Kelley, Thuyet The To. Front row: Megan Bennett, Kayla Rowland, and Katie McBride.



Class of 2010 candidates for treasurer, top row from left to right: Ryan Totolo, Mike Campbell, and Sean Jones. Seated, left to right: Amanda Sorkin, Arianna Brown, and Thomas Daly.

involve a monetary reward for the winners. She said she thinks these events will serve to earn money for the Class of 2010 and promote class unity.

"Through this, not only will we be able to raise enough money for later class events, but also bring our class closer together," Brown said.

Mike Campbell '10 also has high hopes for the Class of 2010. He said the promises to keep in mind the best interests of his classmates when making decisions. He mentioned his hope to raise money to use for everyone's benefit and to ensure that his class has fun.

"We've been here for less than a month, but I already love this place," Campbell said. "I'm having the time of my life, and I want to give something back."

Tom Daly '10 said that the Class of 2010 needs to raise a lot of money and that he is the man for the job. With past experience as a bank teller, Daly said he knows he is capable of handling and working with money.

"By properly allocating our money, we can have as much fun as possible, making our four years as fun, productive, and memorable as possible," said Daly.

Sean Jones '10 is also experienced with handling money, having served as his high school class' treasurer for five years. Jones said he has three main goals for the year. He said since freshman year is a building year with an allocated budget of \$1000, fundraising will be key in making

sufficient funds for class activities. In addition to fundraising, Jones said he hopes to promote class unity and pride so that members of the large Class of 2010 can get to know one another. Charity is Jones' third and final goal, as he said he hopes to sponsor events that will benefit others in need.

"I would like to get the Class of 2010 T-shirts that we could wear to show everybody we're proud to be the Class of 2010 and the newest members of the Providence College community," he said.

Amanda Sorkin '10 said she understands that financial stability will be important for the Class of 2010. She said she hopes to run fundraisers and social events to ensure that her class will have the money necessary to hold other events. Sorkin also promised to take personal care in making sure that the ideas of her fellow students are heard by Congress.

"Through hard work, dedication, and a feeling of duty to do the job to the best of my ability, I will make sure all revenue of the freshman class will be properly distributed where needed," Sorkin said.

Ryan Totolo '10 is a management major who hails from Charleston, S.C. A participant in ROTC, Totolo said he thinks he would be perfect for the job of treasurer of the Class of 2010.

"As the Treasurer of the Class of 2010, I intend to manage and increase the class' funds significantly over the course of the year," Totolo said.

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Peace: 70 students attend rally on Slavin lawn

continued from front page

speakers was not only a global peace, but a smaller-scale peace between individuals.

"There are going to be disagreements. We need to pause, listen, and think," said Father Austriaco. "There is a peace in your heart that's addictive."

"I liked a lot of what Father Nick [Austriaco] said about peace beginning here," said Brooke Huminski '07.

Kerry Bergin '09 spoke about the Declaration of Peace and the International Day of Peace. Bergin then told students that they could sign the peace banner, which was laid out in front of the Slavin

“
I think [the speakers] were very articulate and everybody got the message of peace, love, and harmony.

Kevin Roe '07

”

Center steps.

Patricia Wagner '07, president of Amnesty International, also spoke at the rally. Wagner was the first of the night to address the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan, which continues to be the focus of many rallies across the country.

"We are the future. We are the peace," said Wagner, reiterating the theme of individual peace.

Roe then addressed the crowd, mentioning that the PC Democrats held last year's rally, Wagner and Amnesty International took the lead this year. Roe spoke of his belief that the Iraq war has disappeared

from the headlines. Like the other speakers, Roe called for the people in attendance to find their own peace.

"Peace starts here. It starts among us," said Roe.

Frances Ford '07, a member of Amnesty International, also focused in on individual peace. Ford brought up sexual assault and violence calling it "its own kind of war."

"We have to give up our own anger," said Ford, challenging those in attendance.

Some students were looking for a more focused message.

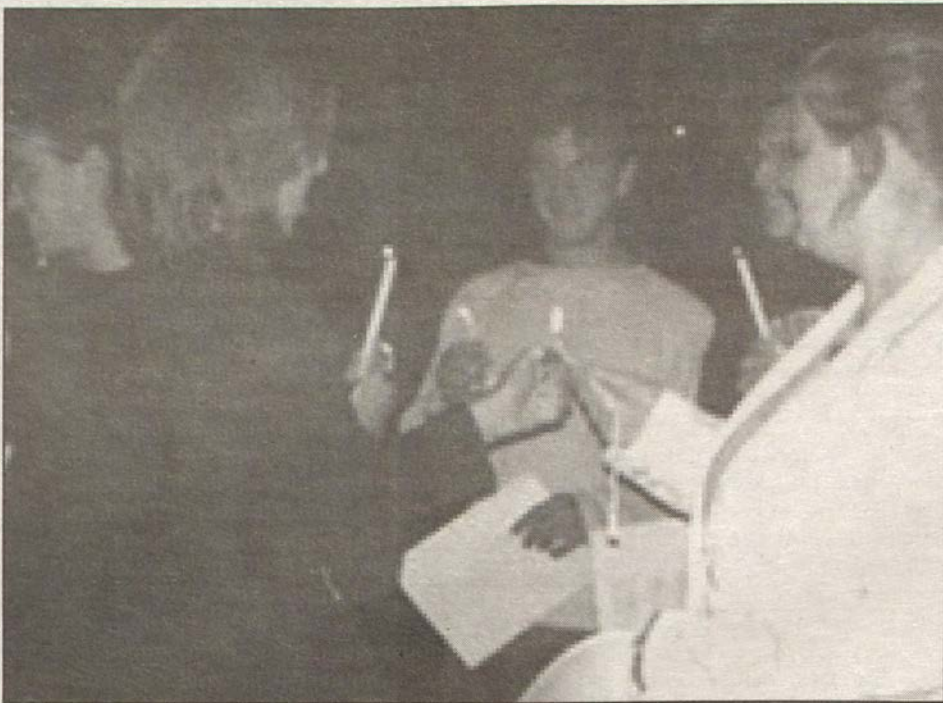
"I was hoping it would be more specific

and directed as far as the speakers go, but overall I liked it," said David Pucino '10.

After Ford spoke, students began lighting the candles that had been passed out to the crowd. Dispatch's "The General" played as those at the rally stood with their candles lit—some standing silently, others singing along to the song.

To end the rally, Caitlin Boyles '09 led the singing of "Amazing Grace" followed by Amy Berroyer '07, who sang "Let There Be Peace on Earth."

The organizers of the event were also pleased with the rally. "I counted 70 peo-



CHRISTINE DIEHL '07/The Cowl

Students lit candles at the peace rally last Thursday, while Dispatch's "The General," played in the background.

Members of Amnesty International attend training seminar

On Saturday, Sept. 16, Amnesty International sent three of its members—Sara Kirk '07, Kerry Bergin '09, and Whitney Henderson '09—to an all day training seminar on non-violence. The seminar was run by the American Friends Service Committee, one of the groups that endorsed the Declaration of Peace. From 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, 25 people received training on how not to respond in anger, on civil disobedience, and on how to enter into a dialogue with others.

"It was very intense, but very inspiring to see all those generations were there for the same purpose. I was very reassured," said Henderson.

Amnesty International set up a table in Raymond Cafeteria on Monday where students could sign the peace banner. In total the banner collected about 80 signatures.

"Peace begins with me, in my dorm room," said Emily Vistica '10, expressing what she learned from the rally.


—Chris Donnelly '08

ple, which is amazing," said Roe. "I think [the speakers] were very articulate and everybody got the message of peace, love, and harmony."

"It inspired me to go out and be a more peaceful and better person," said Keron Tomlinson '10.

"It gave me new perspective on who I am going to school with," said Lindsay


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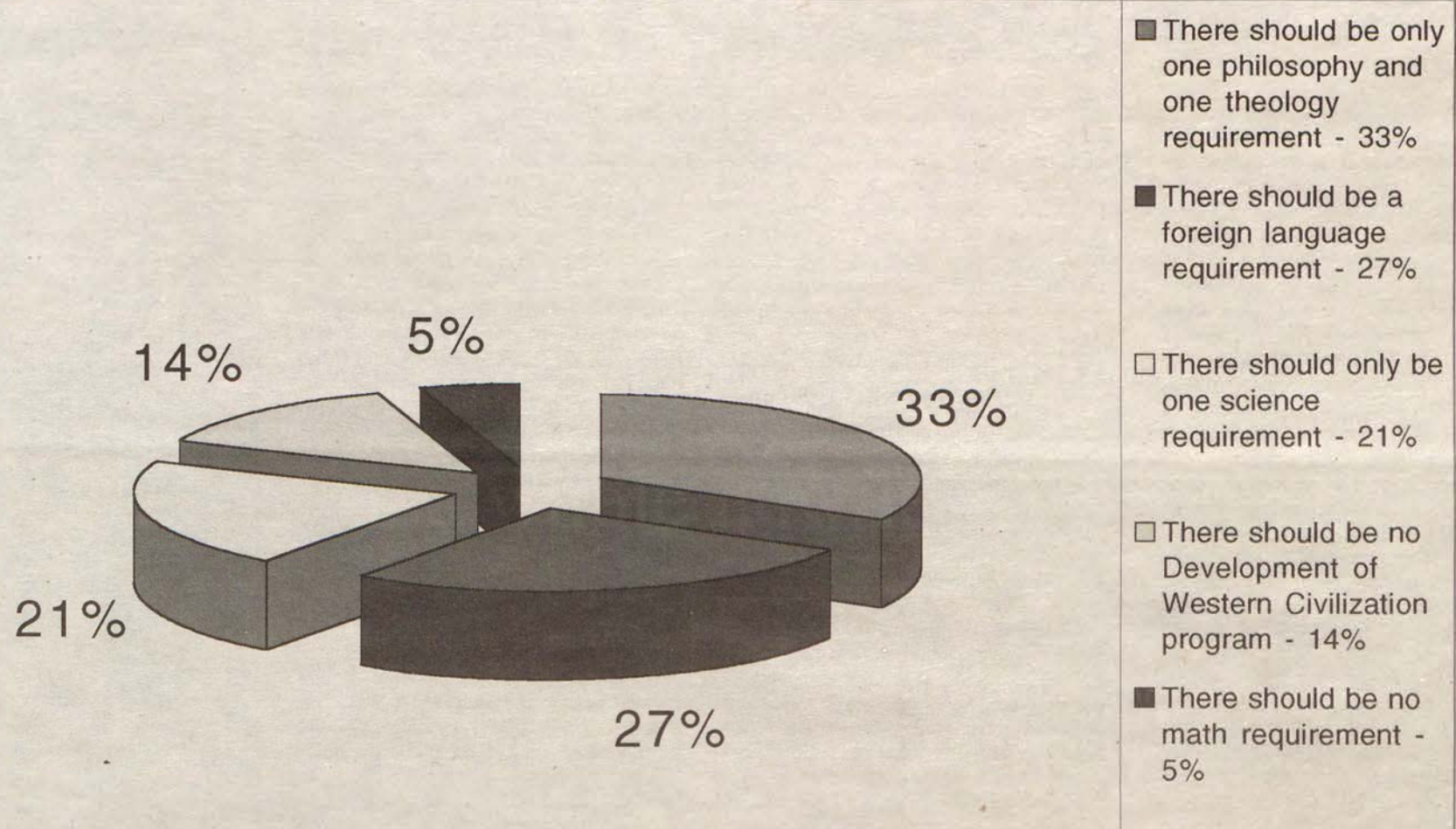


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Last week The Cowl asked its readers to vote on changes they would like to see in the College's Core Curriculum. Here's the consensus:



THIS WEEK:

What class trip would you most like to take?

- 1.) A trip to a poetry slam reading
- 2.) A trip to the Statehouse
- 3.) A trip to a soup kitchen or homeless shelter
- 4.) A trip to one of Rhode Island's many art galleries
- 5.) A trip to the Museum of Natural History at Roger Williams Park

Vote on www.thecowl.com and find out the answer in next week's issue of The Cowl.

Early human has a lot to say

By JIM HANRAHAN '09
ASST. WORLD EDITOR

A new evolutionary clue was discovered last week, which some scientists believe strengthens their argument for Darwinist theory, while minimizing Creationists' beliefs.

A 3.3 million-year-old little girl named "Selam" was discovered in Ethiopia—making her the earliest well-preserved skeleton to date. In recent interviews, experts have said this finding could be an extremely useful tool in completing the lineage puzzle of human beings, since Selam's one fully constructed finger was found curled up in a chimp-like grasp.

"The discovery will raise once again the question of how we understand the human person as a being who has the ability to know and love God," said Dr. Gary Culpepper, associate professor of theology at Providence College.

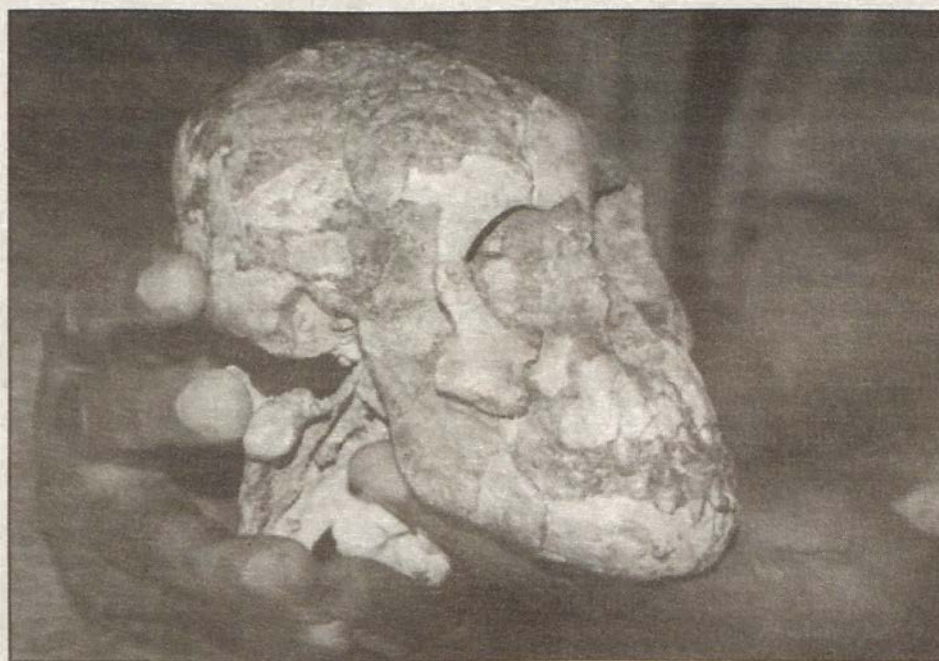
"For all Christians—those for and against it as a scientific account—one of the essential issues is the belief that humans are created in the image of God," he said.

Scientists are in agreement that Selam will provide much needed insight into the development of the early human.

"[This discovery] has the potential to answer old questions, and raise some new ones," said Tim D. White, a paleontologist at the University of California, Berkeley. These new questions include whether or not early humans were tree climbers—and exactly how evolution plays out in the human species.

Selam is presumed to have been about three years old at the time of her death, and she is the earliest well-preserved skeleton of a child found to date. She is believed to be of the *Australopithecus afarensis* species, the same species as the skeleton of "Lucy," discovered in 1974 in the same country. Lucy, however, lived at least 100,000 years after Selam did.

In 2000, Tilahun Gebreselassie, who was part of a fossil discovery team led by Dr. Alemseged, noticed a face peering out of the sandstone. The long, projecting flat nose was distinctly that of a young *afarensis*. Within five years, the



CHINA DAILY

Believed to be a member of the *Australopithecus afarensis* species, 3.3 million-year-old "Selam" was unearthed by scientists this month in Ethiopia. Presumed to have been about 3 years old at her time of death, the skeleton indicates that the species walked upright, but also that it may have been a tree-climber.

fossil was completely lifted from the desert rock. It was more complete than Lucy's and its only fully constructed finger was curled up in a chimp-like grasp. The fossils show a species in a form of transition.

"This discovery will raise once again the question of how we understand the human person as a being who has the ability to know and love God."

Dr. Gary Culpepper

A complex combination of primal and human traits is challenging discoverers. Earlier theories that *afarensis* walked upright were bolstered by the appearance of the skeleton's lower limbs. The fossils, however, suggested that the little girl was equipped with gorilla-like arms and shoulders that would have granted her the ability to swing and climb, much like today's monkeys.

The brain size was probably similar to that of a young chimpanzee, yet the skull offers some clues about a brain size increase like that of a human.

A hyoid bone was also a surprising find to scientists. The bone, found in the voice box, supports the tongue and throat muscles. It is the first found in such an early human-related fossil and provides clues about the beginnings of human speech.

"The child really confirms that *afarensis* was walking upright," said UC Berkeley's White.

The bones of Selam are in surprisingly good condition after 3.3 million years, having been submerged in sandstone in the Dikika region of northeast Ethiopia. She was possibly killed in a flood and buried under sand and stones shortly thereafter.

Despite the fact that the name "Selam" means "peace" in Ethiopia's Amharic language, scientists and theologians agree that this discovery certainly has the potential to reenergize the debate about our ancestry that continues to divide us.

Sources: *The New York Times*, MSNBC, *China Daily*

Thailand coup goes largely unnoticed

By NICOLE CHISMAR '07
WORLD STAFF

With reports of at least 18 coup d'états since World War II, Thailand put another notch on its belt this week after a bloodless military coup ousted the country's Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra on Tuesday, Sept. 19.

While most PC students do not pay particular attention to Thailand politics, Dr. Douglas Blum, professor of political science at Providence College, noted that even media attention was sparse, suggesting "the country's minor significance as an international actor" as a possible cause.

The coup, endorsed by Thailand's King Bhumibol, plans to restore civilian rule within one year. In the meantime, Thai army chief, Gen. Sonthi Boonyaratglin, has currently declared himself the country's interim leader. Boonyaratglin told reporters that his new ruling council had received cooperation "from all sectors of Thai society without any resistance."

Just 36 hours after being shut down because of the coup, the city of Bangkok was back to work as normal. While strong allies of Thailand, including the United States, have declared disappointment in the coup, events like tennis' Thailand Open are being held, and there is no travel advisory being issued by the United States.

According to a statement from Thailand's Ministry of Tourism and Sports, "all tourist destinations, facilities and services in the country remain in operation without disruption, and all tourism-related events organized under the authority of the Ministry will be held as scheduled."



Thailand is in Southeastern Asia, bordering the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand. It lies southeast of Burma (Myanmar).

White House spokesman Tony Snow also informed CNN that the free-trade agreement with Thailand has been halted until civilian government is reestablished.

"We hope those who mounted it will make good, and make good swiftly, on their promises to restore democracy," Snow said.

Despite this disappointment, many political scientists, including Dr. Blum, agree that Thailand's current situation will not weigh heavily on the international political environment.

The coup, Blum stated, "will have next to no impact whatsoever on international relations. Partly because of Thailand's minor significance, and partly it has to do with the fact that the coup—at least so far—appears to be no more than a coup. That is, it involves a change of senior leadership but does not involve a change of regime, and therefore doesn't portend any change in political, ideological, or economic orientation."

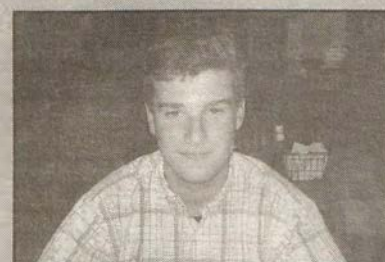
Nevertheless, many PC students are concerned about the fate of the Thai government. Katelin Fitzpatrick '07, agreed, saying, "We hope the upcoming elections will happen quickly, but also be as fair and accurate as possible, especially if they are going to be supervised by the UN."

Prime Minister Shinawatra, who was in the United States on U.N. business at the time of the coup, is now sequestered in London, and will face charges of election fraud upon his return to Thailand.

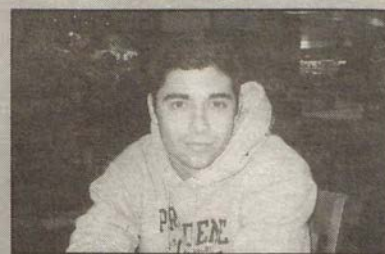
Sources: SABC, CNN, Reuters

Ask PC

How do you feel about the pope's comments on Islam?



"I thought they were pretty accurate considering [some Muslims] responded to being accused of violence with violence."
Chris Mimnaugh '08



"I think [some Muslims] just proved what he was saying by their reaction, because they responded by killing a nun and saying the pope should be hanged."
Mark Scirocco '10



"I feel that the pope's intentions were misunderstood; he didn't mean to offend anyone. It was taken out of context."
Jeanette Toney '09



"I feel that it was misinterpreted. He took a quote from medieval text and people took it as his literal opinion."
Sara Sheehan '09



"The pope is supposed to be a conciliatory voice in the world and his comments only served to further incite violence and misunderstanding."
Michelle Dantuono '07

COMPILED BY JULIANNE SPOHRER '07

Week in Review

Compiled by Amanda Silk '08

Local

Principals monitoring Kennedy Plaza

The Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) service is the main mode of transportation for many Providence high school students, and at the end of each weekday, students converge on Kennedy Plaza. Last year, several serious fights broke out there between students as they waited for buses.

This year, Providence Police Chief Dean Esserman has asked the Providence public schools to place faculty at Kennedy Plaza every day after school. Providence superintendent of schools Donnie Evans acquiesced, ordering the assistant principals of each high school to monitor the bus stop everyday. Evans refutes claims that the assistant principals are there to police the students. Instead, Evans told *The Providence Journal*, "It's more of a presence. If students see a familiar face, they are less likely to do something."

The Providence administrators union, however, has filed a grievance because the assistant principals are not being paid for the extra hour of work and the nature of the work falls outside the job description.

International

Peacekeepers extend mission in Sudan

Fighting between rebels and the Sudanese government has caused more than 200,000 deaths and has displaced more than 2.5 million more in the African nation of Darfur. Sudan's president, Omar al-Bashir, will not allow U.N. forces into the region, but has allowed African Union peacekeepers, led by the President of Burkina Faso, Blaise Compaore.

Compaore announced that the AU will remain in the region at least through the end of the year after speculation that their aid would end soon. President Bush, in a speech to the UN General Assembly, remarked that the AU is not strong enough to stop what the United States has determined to be genocide in the country. Bush further called on the United Nations to take control of peacekeeping.

National

Atlantis mission completed

On Thursday, Sept. 21, the space shuttle Atlantis, manned by six astronauts, returned safely from its 12-day mission. The crew, led by astronaut Brent Jett,

worked on the international space station.

This was the first U.S. mission to the space station since the Colombia disaster in 2003. The nearly perfect mission was at one point alarmed by sightings of floating debris. It was floating debris that caused a hole in the Colombia and ultimately led to its destruction.

The Atlantis mission was the first of 15 scheduled construction missions to the space station. NASA is partnered with Europe, Russia, Japan, and Canada with the goal of completing the space station by 2010.

Technology

Homes have more T.V.'s than persons

The average American home has 2.73 T.V. sets and 2.55 people, according to Nielsen Media Research. CNN cited the example of David and Teresa Leon of New York, who have two children and 7 T.V. sets, not including another one that has yet to be set up.

"You can watch T.V. while you're moving from room to room, folding laundry or taking care of the kids," she said.

Some people attribute the increase of

T.V. sets in the home to the popularity of flat-screen T.V.s, which allow consumers to put T.V.s almost anywhere in the house.

Nielsen also reported that on average, a T.V. set is turned on for an average of eight hours a day, and the average person watches T.V. for four hours and 35 minutes each day.

Sports

Saints win one for New Orleans

It has been a little more than a year since the damaged New Orleans Superdome housed victims of Hurricane Katrina, but, it is once again serving the sport for which it was built, professional football.

The New Orleans Saints kicked off their season to a sold out crowd of 70,003, all joining in a deafening celebration as the Saints fought their way to a 23-3 victory over the Atlanta Falcons.

The crowd, interestingly enough, was not only full of exuberant fans, but also of those who found respite in the Superdome throughout last year's storm.

Sources: CNN, The Providence Journal

Leaders predict a world without poverty

BY ERIN EGAN '07

WORLD STAFF

The growth of developing nations is no longer just an ethical and security concern of the richest and most powerful nations of the world. It is now a major force in an increasingly global economy.

The developing world has a huge stake in what the Economist has labeled "the world's fastest-ever decade of growth in GDP per head."

This may mean that the prospects for a world with better standards of living, diminishing poverty, and thriving economies are much brighter for the next fifty years than they have been for the past twenty.

As of Sept. 12, the Annual Meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund formally began.

In his opening statements, Paul Wolfowitz, president of the World Bank, claimed that his organization has enjoyed

"record-setting success" in the past year.

He also made note of the record dollar amounts allocated to both efforts in Africa and middle-income countries.

This contributed to an encouraging 5.6% average growth rate that developing nations have sustained for five years; 3.7% higher than in the developed world.

“Good governance is not an end to itself, but rather the foundation of the path out of poverty . . . it ensures every development dollar is used to fight poverty, hunger, and disease.”

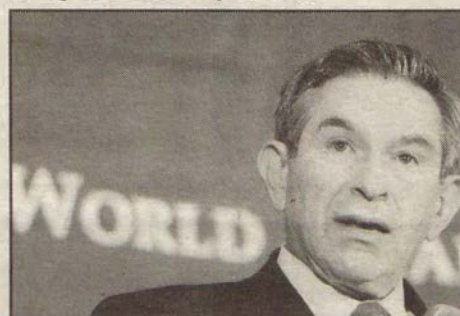
Paul Wolfowitz

There is substantial growth potential for the four largest emerging economies: Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC).

According to Jim O'Neil, author of *The BRIC Dream* and head of Global Economics at Goldman Sachs, in less than

40 years these four economies are projected to become larger than the aggregate size of the G7 (the seven largest economies in the world).

China alone could surpass the United States in terms of GDP. These rising powers will undoubtedly change the dynamics of a global economy forever.



WORLD BANK

No longer will the largest economies (ranked by GDP) be home to the richest populations (ranked by GDP per capita).

As for the rest of the developing world? Experts speculate it is also on a path of potential success and risk. Wolfowitz pri-

oritized two initiatives for the World Bank: growing investment in Africa and fostering of governance everywhere.

He stated that "good governance is not an end to itself, but rather the foundation of the path out of poverty . . . it ensures every development dollar is used to fight poverty, hunger, and disease."

Statistics of growth, strengthening governments, and a flattening economy overflowing with international trade all shine light on the dismal reality of low-income and poverty stricken nations.

This all contributes to a brazenly optimistic claim on the part of Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and President and Co-Founder of the Millennium Promise Alliance.

Sachs claims that "For the first time in history, our generation has the power to abolish poverty worldwide."

As part of this belief, Sachs' Millennium Promise Alliance holds that today's leaders have the opportunity to end extreme poverty by 2025, a welcome prediction in the face of recent global upheavals.

Firestorm over quotation difficult to extinguish

BY SARAH VERNON '07

WORLD STAFF

In an attempt to reach out to Muslim leaders, Pope Benedict XVI met this week with 22 ambassadors from Islamic countries, to emphasize his respect for Islam. The meeting was the latest effort on the part of the Vatican to diffuse the controversy surrounding the pope's Sept. 12 speech on reason and faith at a German university. His speech offended many Muslims causing some to react violently.

While the pope did not issue a second apology, he expressed his hope that Muslim and Christian leaders could work together to build tolerance and discourage violence. Pope Benedict also spoke of the importance of "reciprocity" between Catholics and Muslims. The pope's conciliatory words and gestures were taken in good faith by many of the ambassadors attending the meeting. *The New York Times* quoted the Iraqi envoy Albert Edward Ismail Yelda as saying "it is now time to put what happened behind and build bridges."

The source of the controversy has been rooted in a quote that the pope used in a scholarly address intended to be a discussion on faith and reason in the Western world. In his speech, the argued against the use of violence in the name of religion.

Quoting the thoughts of a 14th century Emperor in a dialogue with a Persian scholar on Christianity and Islam, pope Benedict said, "show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and

there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached."

Yet, preceding this comment, the pope pointed out the "startling brusqueness," of the Emperor's words, "which leaves us astounded," he concluded.

Following the widespread condemnation of his remarks and protests throughout Muslim countries, the pope issued an unusual apology to the Muslim world, stating "I am deeply sorry for the reactions in some countries to a few passages of my address at the University of Regensburg, which were considered offensive to the sensibility of Muslims."

Many Islamic clerics criticized the pope for not going far enough in his apology, expressed their disappointment in him.

When asked about the controversy surrounding the pope, Dr. Sandra Keating, assistant professor of theology at Providence College who has studied Islamic-Catholic relations, said it was important to remember that the pope's words criticizing Muhammad were not his own opinion but were used in a scholarly address to advocate a rational dialogue between faiths.

"The pope's argument was that we should not separate faith and reason," she said.

The reason why so many Islamic leaders condemned the remarks is because Islamic law contains strict rules against defaming the prophet. "I don't think the pope anticipated the reaction his comments would receive," she said.

While Pope John Paul II focused on

building bridges to the Muslim community, Pope Benedict XVI has focused on the idea of reciprocity, in terms of religious freedom for both Catholics and Muslims, Keating explained.

She said the controversy should be looked at from a broad perspective. "We need to see the setbacks and progress as part of a bigger picture and not the end of Muslim-Catholic relations. We are moving towards a much more frank relationship in which we can discuss the problems in a more open manner," she said.

Some students agreed that the pope's remarks were misunderstood. "The pope was giving an academic speech on the history of faith, reason, and violence and the reaction of Islamic fundamentalist clerics was unwarranted," said David Jose '07.

"Given that, I think this pope is not as media savvy as pope John Paul II and the media has seized on that in order to make a story," he said.

Anna Pion '09 agreed. "I think his remarks were misunderstood," she said.

"I think it's ridiculous that these people in Muslim countries are protesting the pope when they aren't protesting the violent actions taken by people of the same faith," said Greg Kerr '07.

Trish Wagner '07 expressed disappointment at the pope, however. "I think it's horrible that the most powerful religious leader in the world has negative comments about another religion. I don't think he should have said that," she said.

Sources: *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*

What did the Pope say?

Pope Benedict XVI based part of a lecture on a reference to the 14th-century dialogue between Byzantine emperor Manuel II Paleologus and a "learned Persian," in which the emperor criticizes Islam, asking the Persian to:

“Show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached.”

The pope then continued with his own analysis of how this dialogue speaks to the concerns of faith and reason in the modern world.

Last week, the Holy See's ambassadors stationed in Muslim countries met with officials to assure them that the pope respects Islam and to urge a complete reading of the speech, which they say was actually not focused on Islam.

Internet didn't kill the radio star—try the bookstore



BY KELLY JONES '07
COMMENTARY STAFF
ACTIVISM

The Internet is great for a number of things—getting competitive recipes on cooking whole chickens, using Google Earth to pinpoint the exact longitude of your elementary school, or reading Zack Braff's personal blog until 3 a.m. Unfortunately, the Internet—though a barrel of laughs—also means the destruction of a great number of bookish livelihoods.

I'll admit that I like the fact that Amazon.com thinks it knows what I would prefer to buy next, based on my previous purchases. But I will bet good money that the folks at Symposium Books in downtown Providence could make the same suggestions, should I happen to frequent their store as often as I buy their books online. As it stands, most of my books come from California—used, with some cover wear, but in **GOOD!** condition, and at prices that can't be beat.

With the advent of Half.com (a subsidiary of Ebay), students have been able to get their entire list of textbooks for hundreds of dollars less than their on or off-campus bookstore would sell them. I am guilty of taking advantage of this fairly new swindle. My science book for this semester cost me \$5.75. All of this is very appealing to the average consumer. In retrospect, however, I have made a big mistake.

The notion of convenient buying and selling books began in the 1950s and '60s when books began appearing in department stores in newly erected suburbs. The standard '50s housewife could snatch up a cheap romance novel in between buying more linens and Levi's. Urban booksellers suffered greatly from this shift to suburbia—it wasn't long before Borders and Barnes and Noble stormed the scene, driving used and privately owned book stores practically off the radar.

According to Laura J. Miller, author of *Reluctant Capitalists: Bookselling and the Culture of Consumption*, "the American Booksellers Association has crumbled from 5,200 bookstores in 1991 to 1,702 stores in 2005." In short, giant chains like Barnes and Noble are as equally responsible as Internet sites like Amazon.com for the demise of the independent bookstore.

In chain bookstores, yuppies have replaced bohemians. The smell of Clorox and lattes has replaced the smell of yellowing pages and dust bunnies. Every section is clearly marked, and the more widely read books are displayed prominently, while hard to find classics remain invisible. There is no risk of a neck cramp, because instead of straining to see the seventh shelf of a dim aisle, a heavily pierced teenager with no interest in the book you are searching for (outside of making commission) will direct you to the computer database that all but eliminates the subtle art of browsing.

How has buying a book become such a cold and unfeeling process? Book-buying should not feel like grocery shopping—it isn't necessary to look for the best deals or what is in season. There is a certain charm and class that cannot be achieved by shopping online or from a huge corporation. Though buying used books from Amazon.com may denote some sort of mutual interest between you and the stranger who sold it to you, odds are they won't keep you at the counter for 20 minutes, telling you in detail what their favorite part of the book is, like the good folks at many indie bookstores.

Coming to grips with the debate on 'torture'



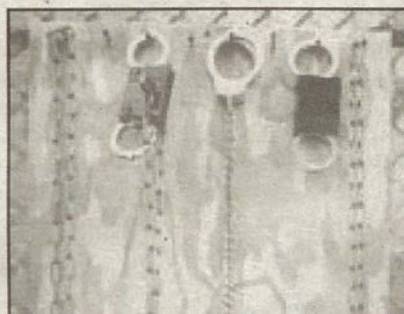
BY KYLE DRENNEN '07
COMMENTARY STAFF
POLITICS

Following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, serious questions arose concerning how to gather intelligence of future threats. The U.S. government has looked for a way to maintain its core democratic principles while protecting the lives of its citizens. The search for this balance has been labeled the "torture" debate and has fueled passions on all sides. Most recently, Republican Senators, led by John McCain of Arizona, questioned legislation pushed by President Bush that called for a clarification of acceptable interrogation tactics to be used against suspected terrorists. This latest controversy outlines the biggest problem: What is "torture?"

One of the central documents of international law are the rules passed in a series of conventions in Geneva in the wake of World War II. Article three of the third convention on Aug. 12, 1949, in reference to prisoners of war states: "To this end the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons: (a) violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture . . . (c) outrages upon personal dignity, in particular, humiliating and degrading treatment."

While this language seems easy to understand, in application it can be difficult to understand which specific actions are allowed or prohibited. First, no uniform definition of torture is given. *Webster's Dictionary* defines torture as: "1. Act or process of inflicting severe pain; 2. Extreme pain." What exact level of pain is

"severe" or "extreme," and does that threshold change from person to person? Second, does this definition include psychological pain as well? To some Islamic prisoners, the simple act of being interrogated by a female soldier can be considered an "outrage upon personal dignity."



Source: www.ausa.org

Handcuffs and leg shackles at the Guantanamo military base in Cuba—a place in question in "torture" debate.

For some, the idea of trying to develop a specific definition of the word "torture" is offensive because it forces politicians and average citizens to confront a very unpleasant topic. However, when some consider loudly playing the Red Hot Chili Peppers a form of torture, it is clearly time to sit down and discuss the issue. If you think tactics such as keeping prisoners in a cold room and sleep deprivation are responsible interrogation methods for preventing future terrorist attacks, than some would say you are in favor of torture. Of course, there are more controversial tactics such as water boarding, in which prisoners experience simulated drowning. If this sounds harsh, consider that those subjected to it are never really in danger of drowning, and some members of the U.S. mili-

tary are subjected to the same practice during training. People will certainly disagree over which tactics should be considered torture and which should not, which is why it is important to discuss this issue.

It is also important to eventually come to some unified consensus so that we can provide our soldiers and intelligence officials with specific unambiguous guidelines to follow. This is exactly what the recent legislation backed by the Bush Administration is trying to do, and thankfully a compromise has been reached between Senator McCain and Bush.

The Geneva Convention is a vitally important document in world affairs. It forms the very basis of the concept of human rights in the international community. However, acts of terrorism such as Sept. 11 demonstrate the willingness on the part of some to violate nearly every aspect of that document. How can we protect human rights against extremists who only see the world in terms of the powerful and the weak, the conquerors and the conquered, the faithful and the unfaithful?

We are involved in a very different kind of war from any the world has ever before. The tactics employed are certainly very different from that of World War II. Our enemy is decentralized, does not wear a uniform, and measures success by how many innocent people are left dead. Al Qaeda, however, is very much like our enemies in World War II in one crucial respect: its hatred for anyone who does not subscribe to its extremist ideals.

In fighting our enemy, we must not become him, but must defeat him. How we avoid the former and achieve the latter will determine the outcome of this war.

Sources: *International Committee of the Red Cross*

Re-fortifying the arts, artists, and Fort Thunder



BY COLLEEN FLYNN '07
COMMENTARY STAFF
ACTIVISM

Graduation is the death sentence to your college journalism career. You exchange your voice for a diploma. However, there are the select few who manage to beat this system. Hats off to you, Chris Ackley '06, because your spirit still pervades our office and I'm writing this piece off your suggestion.

Like Ackley, the legacy of the members of the '90s Providence underground art movement—Fort Thunder—refuses to die. This collection of Rhode Island School of Design students utilized one of the old mill spaces in 1995 in the Olneyville section of Providence and converted it into an artists' residence and performance center, known as Fort Thunder. Mat Brinkman, Brian Chippendale, Leif Goldberg, Jim Drain, and Brian Ralph were among the founders and some of the most successful artists involved. Pooling their talents in silk-screening, comics, installation art, and noise music, the group provided an outlet for true creativity. They gained recognition after being featured in the interior design magazine, *Nest*, and their success culminated in the selection of Forcefield, a music group consisting of several Fort Thunder members, for the 2002 Whitney Biennial. The group's entry was one of the most popular exhibits at the show.

Despite Fort Thunder's widespread acclaim and its service to the cultural enrichment of the city, New York-based developer Feldco requested the space to

build a strip mall in 2001. Feldco and the arts community engaged in a heated battle over what should take precedence: artist residences and performance spaces or commercial development. Eventually Feldco and the city government came to an agreement, allowing the Eagle Square Mall to be constructed, but in the style of the original 19th century mills. Fort Thunder disappeared and the artists were forced to relocate.

The controversy followed the construction of the Providence Place Mall in 1999. At the time, the city was confronted with the issue of how to best execute Providence's "renaissance." City officials desired to revamp the city but needed a source of income and the mall served as the best solution. Today, with about 15 million shoppers circulating through the mall, Providence Place is considered to be a success, but many residents feel that the new wave of big business cannot repair the toll taken on the city's cultural landscape.

Members of this camp speculate about the innovation and success that Fort Thunder could have achieved. As a tribute to Fort Thunder's contribution to the arts, the RISD Museum is showcasing the artists' work in an exhibit called "Wunderground Providence." Among the collections is the silk screening work that decorated the mill space, from posters of concerts staged at Fort Thunder to advertisements for the Armory Farmers' Market. Additionally, former Fort Thunder members have collaborated on several new installation structures in "Shangri-la-land," including Brian Chippendale's "Home on the Run," a movable shelter ref-

erencing the displacement of Providence artists in the wake of the city's commercial development. Several posters highlight the situation in the West Side, shouting messages such as "Olneyville needs a library, not luxury lofts."

I encourage Providence College students to attend this exhibit, which opened this past Saturday and runs through January. So many college students in Providence do not take advantage of what this city has to offer and can generally be found at either a seedy local bar or the Providence Place Mall. Contrary to what city officials think, there are only so many times one can enjoy forking over an arm and a leg for an IMAX movie. Thayer Street is considered an out-of-the-ordinary adventure, and most PC graduates could not give directions to Federal Hill, the Cable Car Cinema, or AS220. Put away your fake ID for a night and head over to Benefit Street to check out this exhibit. Take advantage of Gallery Night, where admission to the museum is free every third Thursday of the month.

More importantly, check out Olneyville. After reading about it several times in Ackley's articles last year, I made the two-mile trek there this summer. A short bike ride from Pleasant Valley parkway, the Monohasset Mill Project houses Recycle-A-Bike and the Steelyard, where you can take classes in metal crafts. Various artists' residences have managed to survive and theater troupes circulate through the area on occasion. Broaden your horizons and you will help a dying cultural area in Providence, as well as reawaken your sense of culture since stepping on campus.

Letters to the Editor:

Throwing stones

In response to Michael Rubin's tangent last week, "no religious violence here," it appalls me at times to see some Christians continually throw stones in their glass houses, as if they and their religion are without sin. Apparently, some people give no thought to the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, the slaughter of Native Americans, the Salem Witch Trials, over two-hundred years of slavery in the United States, and the murder of abortion doctors in the 1990s. I was not aware that war,

murder and oppression conducted by lunatics in the name of Jesus Christ are permissible while the same acts committed by lunatics in the name of Islam should be condemned. Anyone trying to build a Kingdom of God on earth by using violence, fear, and hate as their primary tools (regardless of their faith) surely is as distant from their God as possible.

Matthew Balliro '07

Missing the truth

Michael Rubin's tangent from last issue has again proven him to be a man of intolerance. While the reaction of a notably minority of Muslims to the pope's ill-advised comments was gravely wrong, to cast all Muslims as agents of violence is bordering on the edge of bigotry. Rubin again casts himself as the holier-than-thou pundit but fails to mention the violence Catholics engaged in during the crusades and the Church's unwillingness to condemn the Holocaust until years later.

Violence in the name of God is perhaps the highest form of evil the world has ever known. Bigotry and intolerance in the Lord's name, though, must be viewed with equal contempt. For such religious hatred holds no place in a world where Pope John Paul II worked so tirelessly to break down the walls and prejudices that pitted religious men and women of different cloaks against one another.

Mike Raia '05

Does Elmo 'tickle' your fancy?

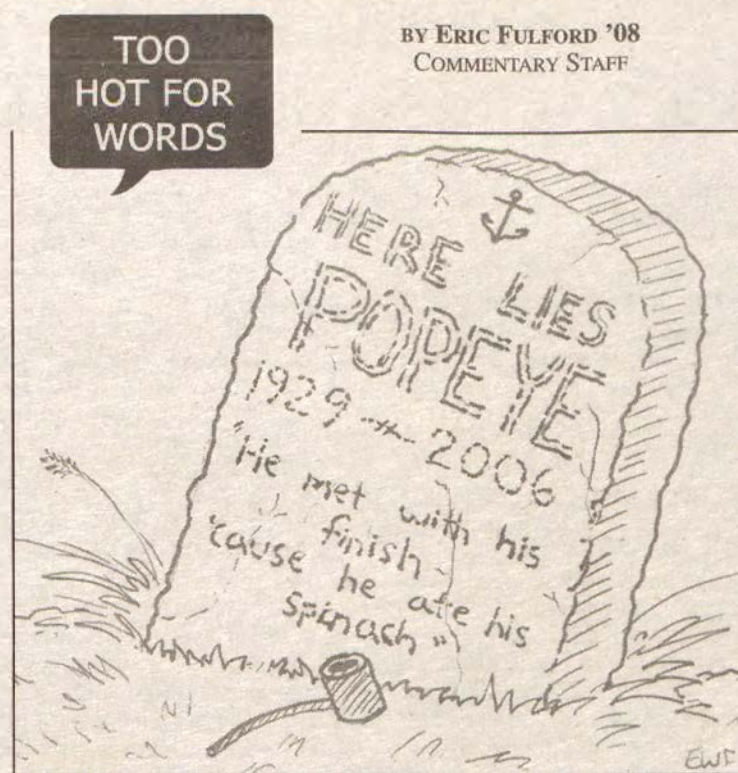
BY BETSY ROULEAU '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

Several people rush into a store and dash to the back section. There is a heated argument, a brief scuffle, and someone's life is threatened. The location? A Tampa, Fla. Target store. The center of the clash? An Elmo doll.

Apparently, the new 10th anniversary Tickle Me Elmo doll is an absolutely amazing toy. Fisher-Price has re-released the infamous toy, and everyone's favorite resident of Sesame Street now comes with three (count them, three) tickle points, the ability to slap his thigh in laughter, the amazing skill to fall to the floor in mirth, and yes, even the knack of picking himself back up off of the ground. When Elmo is done, he begs to be tickled again. While this not be my favorite way to spend a cool \$40, it is taking playtime to a whole new level and is shaping up to be the hottest

seller of the 2006 holiday season. So, when one angry Florida father saw the customer before him take the last Elmo doll, he told the man that he would kill him. Target's response was to issue the "Tickle Me Elmo Giftcard," letting customers pre-order the dolls and alerting them when their Elmo has arrived.

This death threat shows that the consumerism of the United States has reached an entirely new level. When Christmas presents are selling out in September, and customers are placing a human life on equal footing with a trendy toy, there is something horribly wrong with our society. Furthermore, when the immediate response is to make the process of buying an item safer, a greater problem is revealed. This latest event should make a statement. It should cause us all to reevaluate our material goods and the price we pay for them. Tickle me, Elmo? No, thanks.



BY ERIC FULFORD '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

Tangents and Tirades

Let's get these questions answered! Pope Benedict XVI has been under much scrutiny this month for his remarks concerning the nature of Islam. In today's world, political correctness has greatly impinged on a public figure's ability to speak his mind or even truth. When the unequivocally orthodox Cardinal Ratzinger became our pope, many people held their breath at what could prove to be one of the most orthodox papacies in memory. Perhaps people will breathe a sigh of relief, for no matter how clumsy this controversy may prove to be, the pontiff has raised a very provocative question which could not be more relevant to modern events. Although Pope Benedict hadn't decisively stated whether or not he agrees with the statement he quoted, the point is that question raised concerning Muhammad's revelation, especially the doctrine of Holy War, needs to be confronted.—Andrew Sparks '09

How 'bout a fast game of sleeper? There's no two ways about it: Clint Eastwood is and will always be the coolest man to ever live. If you think otherwise, you clearly haven't thought this through. Many people don't give him the respect he deserves. Not only is he unparalleled as an actor, but he has proven himself to be one of the greatest directors of all time. Eastwood would win an Oscar for directing a Mentos commercial. John Wayne, Chuck Norris, and David Hasselhoff would run away bawling at the mere thought of him sneering at them. Eastwood doesn't let his fame get to his head either, he keeps a low profile and plays it cool even when he's out of notoriously cool roles. You don't see him on the front page of *People* for getting pulled over by cops after driving drunk and ranting about his thoughts on the Jewish population. Eastwood is a normal guy like you and me, except he's cool as Hell and makes great movies. If you know what's up, you'll do yourself a favor and Netflix some classic Eastwood masterpieces. You don't know cool until you know Eastwood.—Aiden Redmond '08

Losing our rights? Perhaps I'm naïve or take America for granted, but don't we—yes "we" because like it or not, our president's policies are a reflection of us all—condemn leaders for practices of torture? With a compromise bill that could allow Bush to reinterpret the Geneva Conventions, I can't help but wonder what direction America is headed towards. Since when is it OK to infringe upon universal human rights despite what danger we COULD be in? Though torture is a practice banned in many countries, those codes are undoubtedly violated, but I can't see how the leader of the free world can be allowed to publicly try and allow "legal torture" without much uproar from a country whose rights could be next. What is to happen if and when our country's soldiers are captured by other armies when we don't? Congress passed the anti-torture bill reaffirming the ban on the use of cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment; however, President Bush issued a "signing statement" asserting that he could waive the ban on inhuman treatment when he deems it necessary. How can our country simply allow basic human rights to be violated and outright commit wrong?—Laura Bedrossian '07

Bookstores: Stop clicking, save a book.

continued from page 10

This is not an anti-capitalist rant. The fact remains that when a Borders or a Barnes and Noble store is erected overnight as part of a mega-mall shopping plaza, every independent used or new bookstore in the area is doomed. Furthermore, every time a click of the

mouse purchases the latest Mary Higgins Clark from Amazon.com, a little bit of the romance of buying a book dies. And don't even get me started on what all of this does to libraries.

Sources: *theVillageVoice.com*

Cowl Letters Policy

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All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, and a phone number where he or she can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length, and only one will be published per week. The Cowl editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles for space and clarity.

However, if there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, please inform the Editor-in-Chief. Letters to the editor are the

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Papacy leads way for others to start speaking the truth

BY MICHAEL RUBIN '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

The way *The New York Times* tells it, you would think that Pope Benedict XVI called for a crusade. On Sept. 16, in an editorial the *Times* editors demanded that the pope give a "deep and persuasive apology" for having "insulted Muslims" with his speech at a German university and for obstructing "interfaith dialogue."

As for major news sources like the *Times*, their strategy for dialogue with Islam is apparently to ignore any distressing statements from Muslims. No analysis or criticism was made concerning the Muslim cleric who issued a fatwa against Pope Benedict, nor the seven firebombed Palestinian churches or the murdered Italian nun. Instead, the media employed the truism that any violent action by a Muslim does not represent Islam, and every morally acceptable one does.

Turning a blind eye to the military aggression that is part of Islam might postpone conflict with Muslims—but not for long. Such Western cowardice encourages the orthodox Muslim terrorists, and tells moderate Muslims living in oppressive Islamic societies that we will not support or protect them from their co-religionists.

If we do not find a way to confront the evils in Islam through dialogue, we will have to confront them in a holy war with Islam, a disagreeable option for an increasingly feeble West.

To find this path, one need look no further than the pope's speech. Primarily concerned with the place of reason and God in the modern university, the text is no offense to Muslims but, as confirmed by recent Vatican statements, is "an invitation to frank and sincere dialogue," and an analysis of how that is to be accomplished.

The cause of Pope Benedict's troubles was his quoting of the Byzantine emperor Manuel II Paleologus from his dialogue with a Persian Muslim: "Show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached." The emperor then provides arguments for why furthering a religion with violence is incompatible with God's nature.

The pope has made clear that he did not include this passage because he agreed with the emperor's estimation of Islam (though it seems fairly accurate to me), but rather to point out that it was the emperor's belief that reason can know God's moral law allowing Him to condemn holy war with such confidence. "The decisive statement in this argument against violent con-

version is this: Not to act in accordance with reason is contrary to God's nature . . . For the emperor, as a Byzantine [Christian] shaped by Greek philosophy, this statement is self-evident."

Not so for Muslims. Islam takes Allah's transcendence to the extreme, with Surah 5:64 denying that "Allah's hands are chained" by anything, even His Goodness. As a result, in Islam there is no Divine Law that is knowable by human reason, as there is in Christianity; there are only divine "habits." This belief explains why historically few Muslims have objected to using conquest to expand their faith and why Muslims are less receptive to outside criticism than are Christians, who recognize that even their opponents have access to Truth through reason.

“ . . . Pope Benedict deserves to be emulated, not attacked, for his courage to speak the truth when others dare not . . . ”

But the West is also guilty of abusing reason. The pope details how the modern West has removed God from the sphere of reason, starting with the Reformers' rejection of scholastic philosophy, and ending with modern philosophy's "self-limitation of reason" to the material word. This latter

restriction of reason by the secular West is particularly harmful to dialogue, for "the world's profoundly religious cultures see this exclusion of the divine from the universality of reason as an attack on their most profound convictions."

The debasing of reason is the core obstruction to Muslim-Western dialogue. Islam is closed to dialogue because of its refusal to subject its beliefs to examination by reason. The secular West is incapable of it because it has, as Pope Benedict states, "relegated to the realm of the subjective" the basis for all cultural dialogue—"the specifically human questions about our origin and destiny."

The resolution of cultural conflict lies in the embracing of reason as a path to knowledge of God, and to agreement on fundamental issues. For the West, this means taking back its Christian heritage, so that it may have a firm stance from which to reach out to Islam. It remains to be seen whether the West has the sense to follow the pope for its own survival's sake.

Regardless of the future, Pope Benedict deserves to be emulated, not attacked, for his courage to speak the truth when others dare not, and to invite all peoples "to this great logos, to this breadth of reason . . . in the dialogue of cultures."

Sources: Zenit News Agency, *The New York Times*

Traveling is a breeze for those Europeans



Just Czechin' In

BY SHANNON OBEY '08
COMMENTARY STAFF

It's astonishing how simple it is to take public transportation in Prague, especially considering the difficulties in the States. In America, at least in my own experience, transportation such as trains or buses are available, but not easily accessible. You buy a ticket, but it's either a one time or roundtrip deal. In Europe, this isn't the case, everything is much easier.

When you first get to your destination, (in this case Prague), you must purchase a ticket which is good anywhere from one hour to a full day—unless you get a three month transportation pass, which my program so kindly gave me. After cramming onto your tram or metro of choice, you can fumble over to a funny looking yellow machine which will punch your ticket with a timestamp. All while being tossed and jostled around with your fellow travelers.

If you choose not to purchase a ticket, which many do, beware of undercover cops. You could be sitting in your seat when an undercover cop will pounce on you, showing you a tiny badge, and expect you to produce your ticket instantly. Once I had forgotten my transportation pass at home and only realized this when I fumbled

through my wallet in a state of panic. Thankfully, I had not yet gotten on the Metro, so they did not slam me with a \$50.00 fine. Instead told me to go back up the mile-long escalader and buy a ticket, but boy was I shaking in my boots.

Train travel around the Czech Republic can also be stressful. This past weekend I went to Southern Bohemia, about three hours south of Prague, with three other girls and our program director. The trip there via train was almost perfect despite being crammed into cars and forced to sit next to smelly strangers. But our trip back home was a completely different story.

After lugging our day packs from a local rickety red train onto a faster one and sitting for two hours, our eyes glazed over from exhaustion, the train stopped and backed up to the nearest train station. Not knowing what was going on, we all dangled out of the windows trying to hear what the conductor was saying. With help, we translated what he was saying into: "Everyone must get off the train." We then waited for another train to come, while some partook in the beer culture and did not stop when the new train arrived.

The train brought us to a bus stop where two buses sat, waiting for us like white knights to take us to another train. There was a stampede-like fight to the buses which we sorely lost, forcing us to wait for the next two to come save us. Finally we arrived at the last train station, where we were crammed like sardines onto the train that took us to our final destination. The trip that was only supposed to take three

hours ended up taking five all because the train in front of ours had lost its engine on our tracks. Go Figure.

During the same weekend, our friends were traveling home from Budapest and sleeping in their train car. When they awoke, their purses had been stolen with their identification inside. There was nothing they could do except get new passports and cancel their credit cards.

While people generally do not get robbed so drastically, pickpockets are always a problem on the packed trams and metros. It is important to remember while on the Prague trams to keep your purse or backpack in front of you at all times and never set it down. Better safe than sorry.

There is another danger while riding on the trams and metros: Elderly women who do not understand English and often carry around a big walking/poking stick. It is common knowledge that you should respect your elders and offer them your seat, but if for some reason you do not get up the second they enter the tram, you get an earful in Czech from all the elderly women around you saying what a horrible person you are. You also get an occasional whack from a cane.

Besides these horrors from the transportation system, it is almost always timely and reliable. All in all, each new tram and Metro ride brings a new adventure, an adventure everyone should experience once in their life while traveling in Europe. It's also a constant reminder of how public transportation should transform in the United States. Bon Voyage.

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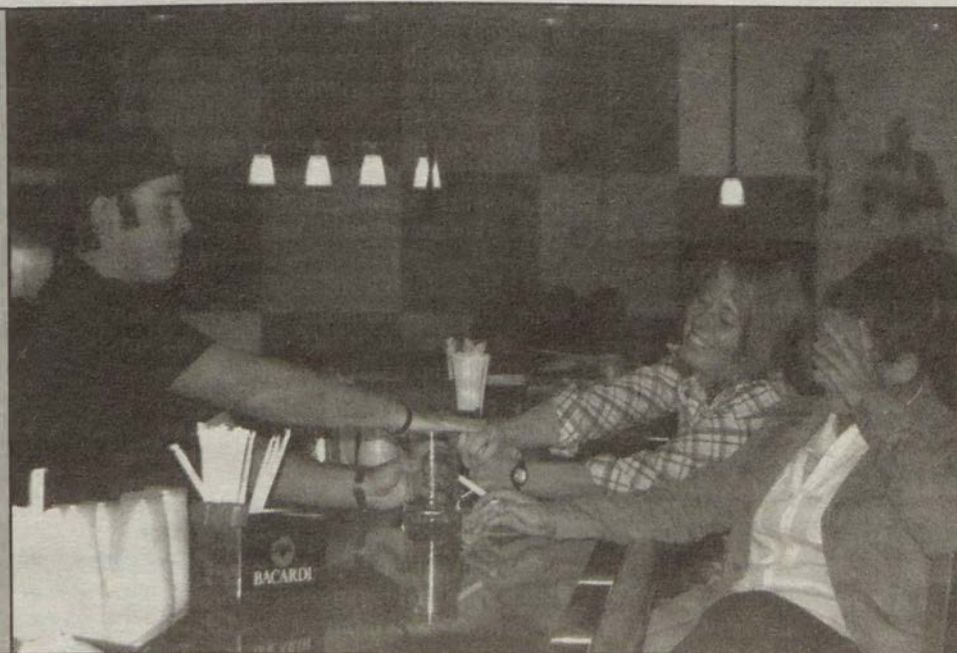
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If you're going to be dumb, you've got to be tough

BY JOE MCCORMACK '07
A&E STAFF

In case anyone wasn't sure, *Jackass Number Two* proves that farting, nudity, pain, and surprises are funny. Johnny Knoxville, Bam Margera, Steve-O, and the rest of the crew return to the big screen with their usual formula of bombastic displays of toughness, horrific displays of injury, and gratuitous displays of human flesh. As Dave England comments at one point, it gets worse every time. Even if you like this sort of thing, you'll go back and forth between riotous laughter, moans of sympathy pain, and groans of utter disgust.

America first met this band of skateboarders, masochists, and pranksters on the show *Jackass* as bored young men amusing themselves with simple means: Chugging milk, regurgitating live fish, messing with people on the street, hitting each other in the reproductive organs, jumping into shopping carts and flying full tilt into bushes and, of course, drinking heavily.

Their success has made them rich, but it has not kept them from being bored. The key difference now is the budget. They can place a four-person seesaw in the middle of a bullfighting ring and see who lasts the longest. They can get in full makeup and walk the streets as a very convincing naked elderly woman. They can attach rockets to those aforementioned shopping carts. They can drink very heavily.

The dynamic that differentiates the *Jackass* empire from a mere masochistic backyard videotape is the personalities of the men performing these stunts. These personalities also serve to distinguish three types of *Jackass* combatants.

The simplest is Steve-O. His way of drawing laughs comes from abusing his body grotesquely, like a walking horror flick. At one point in the film, he sticks a hook through his cheek (which takes about two agonizing minutes) and swims in shark infested waters as "bait."

Next is Bam, the pretty-boy skateboarder who is filmed crying on two separate occasions because the heat gets a bit too hot. He prays at one point that there will be no *Jackass Number Three*.



PARAMOUNT

Johnny Knoxville, however, is a man's man. He distinguishes himself from the herd by oozing cool throughout the film. There is no question as to why he is the unofficial leader of the group—and the only one to successfully cross over into non-self-injury comedy.

When the three aforementioned characters stand in front of a rubber bullet shooting security system, Knoxville stays on his feet while the other two are sent sprawling. He shrugs off the giant welts as if they are mosquito bites. When he volunteers to climb on to a giant rocket, straight out of Wile E. Coyote's ACME catalog, one of the internal rockets misfires and blasts a chunk out of the side of the rocket. When Knoxville finds out he was two feet away from disembowelment, he laughs. There is not a hint of fear on his face. When they bring around the next rocket, he jumps right back on.

While Steve-O abuses himself for the perverse viewing pleasure of the audience, and Bam attempts his feats to look cool for the camera, Knoxville seems to challenge the world just because it's there. The most I can say for the redeeming value of

Jackass Number Two is this: There are moments when these men, especially Knoxville, show courage. There is a type of valor inherent in wrestling an anaconda without caring that your arms are covered in blood from its teeth, or staring down a bull just to let it know that you are not afraid of it.

Of course, most of the film is childish, grotesque, full of male nudity... and hilarious.

GRADE: B

Jackass Number Two

Directed by: Jeff Tremaine

Starring: Johnny Knoxville, Bam Margera, Steve-O

Runtime: 95 minutes

Rated R



Mandarin mania

China's most respected martial artist, Jet Li, is retiring... But do not fear, his final fight shows why he will not be forgotten.

BY OWEN LARKIN '07
A&E STAFF

Huo Yuanji (Jet Li), is the detestable main character of *Fearless*. He is an arrogant, goofy, irresponsible, and hardly likeable drunk, too consumed by his pride and self-serving ambitions to take care of business or his family. He is so caught up in the cycle of winning fights, getting drunk, winning fights, getting drunk, that he is nearly morally bankrupt and hardly a character one can get behind. Then his mother and daughter get cut up by the godson of a defeated foe, and presto. Hua Yuanji becomes the man. The legend. The hero of China.

Oversimplification? I think so, but now that I have your attention, let's talk about this for awhile. The film is not nearly so cut and dry, and is in fact a quality film of epic proportions.

The film is about a true historical figure, Huo Yuanji. At a time when Chinese pride and self-assurance was being eroded by capitalism and other western influences, much of this intended by slick, big-hatted imperialists, Yuanji gave the Chinese a true hero to get behind.

To be brief, he did this by kicking the



BUENA VISTA

Lethal Weapon: If you can get past the subtitles, you will see some of the most amazing fights in any movie backed by a strong story.

crap out of westerners. One famous fight, which is both the beginning and end of the film thanks to a smooth storytelling device, pitted Yuanji against four fighters in succession, using different weapons each time. It is one of the most amazing fights I have ever seen in a movie.

Then again, all the fights are spectacular. The use of wires is not nearly as over pronounced as it was in *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and only goes to accentuate

ate moves rather than have Jet Li fly around the screen. The choreography leaves little to be desired and the camera work is top notch.

The visuals in the movie are simply stunning. *Fearless* is not as artsy as *Hero*, which cared much less about story than jaw-dropping visuals, but it is of an equal quality. The scenery, costumes, and use of color are also remarkable, affording one a true sense of early 20th century China.

The one problem American audiences may have with this film, however, is that it is very Chinese. The heavy, though often subtle, use of symbols can be confusing or simply boring if one is only looking for an action film. Many of the ideas expressed by the movie may seem cheesy or foreign, as this movie was clearly not made to entertain the American public. The old style Mandarin can also sound simply goofy to the untrained ear, and a lot of people simply can't get past subtitles. This was true for the six 14-year-old sk8ers (as I am confident they call themselves) sitting behind me making farting noises. I think it was a little over their heads.

As stated earlier, Li's character is hardly likeable for a good part of the film. This makes his transition all the more amazing, as it is done slowly and over time. The

JET LI/Page 14

Fearless

Directed by: Ronny Yu

Starring: Jet Li

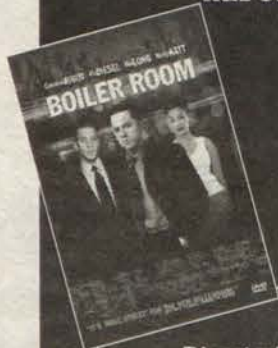
Runtime: 103 minutes

Rated PG-13



Picks of the Week

By RYAN BURNS '08
A&E Staff



Movie

Boiler Room
Directed by Ben Younger

See how the high-rollers of stock-brokerage live in this gritty film about the cutthroat operations of the world of finance. Giovanni Ribisi stars as Seth Davis, a young businessman who gets recruited to work for a group of renegade stock brokers who do business their way. As the pressure of the job starts to mount, Davis experiences a host of problems, and the heat gets turned on him in *Boiler Room*.

Music

Wes Montgomery
Wes Montgomery's Finest Hour
Polygram Records

Relax as one of the biggest legends of jazz music performs his greatest hits on this disc. One of the best guitar players in jazz history, Montgomery uses his talents to play unorthodox notes and amazing riffs. "Sunny" and "Goin' Out Of My Head" are two of the best tracks on this album.



Joe DiMaggio
by Richard Ben Cramer

This biography of the Yankee clipper exposes his behind the scenes life, which was not always glamorous. This is by far one of the most interesting biographies that I have ever read due to the nature of the examination of its subject. Cramer pulls no punches when bringing the life of one of the most beloved baseball players in history to the public. A must-read for any sports fan.

Urban Elements

All Jedi go to Heaven

With Servants in Heaven, Kings in Hell, Jedi Mind Tricks packs intense rhymes and creepy compositions into 16 tracks

By RYAN BURNS '08
A&E Staff

Jedi Mind Tricks
Servants in Heaven, Kings in Hell
Babygrande

As one of the most popular college hip-hop bands, Jedi Mind Tricks (JMT) has held down its spot in hip-hop for the last eight years. Armed with Horrorcore lyricist Vinnie Paz and groundbreaking producer Stoupe the Enemy of Mankind, JMT has redefined the Philadelphia sound, while connecting with some of underground hip-hop's most respected acts.

After releasing their supergroup album *Army Of The Pharaohs*, which featured 7L and Esoteric, Apathy, Non Phixion, and others, JMT are back once again with their fifth studio album entitled *Servants in Heaven, Kings in Hell*. Boasting one of the coolest hip-hop album covers I have seen in quite some time, *Servants* is a 16-track walk through the artistic mind of JMT. The album is entirely produced by Stoupe, who lends his unique blend of salsa flavored Spanish guitars, sped up vocal samples, and ethereal strings. Stoupe is one of these producers who has a distinct sound that is instantly recognizable whenever you hear it.

Stoupe's often-creepy compositions are perfectly complimented by the aggressive lyrics of Vinnie Paz. On the album's first track, "Put Em In The Grave," Paz sounds as hungry as ever over an excellent beat that is reminiscent of the early JMT sound. While Stoupe chops up a Hitchcock-like string sample, Paz spits, "I'm strong but I'm wild, they say I drink too much/the only problem that I have is that I think too much."

That could be Paz's biggest problem indeed. Paz has been known to mix pop culture references with historical and biblical ones to create a more complete song. The only problem with this is that the average listener might not be able to understand these allusions and could quite possibly get lost in Paz's flow. On "Serenity in Murder," Paz's rhymes: "I'm like Napoleon Bonaparte, I throw a dart and blow your bones apart/the lonely part is when you falling like you Owen Hart." Now if listeners have no idea who Owen Hart is, they won't get the rhyme. For the record, Hart was a professional wrestler who died after falling from the rafters of an arena and landing on his head.

Aggressive lyrics and beats have always been a staple of Jedi Mind Tricks' music,



BABYGRANDE

Mind over matter: Jedi Mind Tricks' new album, *Servants in Heaven, Kings in Hell*, has a few surprisingly good tracks, but the flow sounds monotonous.

and somewhat defines what the group is all about. My favorite song on the album, "Heavy Metal Kings," showcases the Jedi Mind Tricks philosophy. The intro to the song acts like the calm before the storm. Picture a great battle about to be fought, and the music that would accompany it in a movie, and that is the feeling I got while listening to this song. Once the beat drops, it is clear that the battle is underway. Using a collection of strings, Stoupe is again able to craft a smooth yet intense beat for Vinnie Paz and guest Ill Bill to rhyme over. Ill Bill has a couple great lines in this song, such as, "I'm a Slayer album personified, holocaust, Columbine/Middle passage, Israel versus Palestine." It is songs like this that have been so instrumental in putting Jedi Mind Tricks on the map.

Just when I thought that Jedi Mind Tricks couldn't make a song with a theme, the group surprised me with "Shadow Business"—a song about the growing problem of Chinese slave labor. Paz wonders why, "They make clothes for

McDonalds and for Applebee's, and working 40-hour shifts in prison factories." JMT took this track to a new level, and I was surprised at the potency of these lyrics in which Paz addresses a topic that is not at the forefront of many conversations. He likens the situation to modern day slave labor.

Overall, *Servants* is a pretty good album. While Stoupe's gift of beatmaking can never be questioned, sometimes Paz's flow leaves something to be desired. When he's not talking about serious topics, his flow can sound monotonous at times and, unless you are a big Jedi Mind Tricks fan, you may not want to hear more from him. I would recommend this album to any fan of JMT, and if you have never heard of JMT before, I suggest you try this album.

In today's "bling-bling," Laffy Taffy world of hip-hop, Stoupe and Paz are about 180 degrees different. Even intense, violent rhymes can be a breath of fresh air.

GRADE: B

Fearless: Goodbye Jet Li

continued from page 13

film is truly epic and does justice to the real Hua Yuanji.

Yuanji was the founder of the Jingwu Sports Federation (also known as Chin Woo or Jin Woo), which still thrives all over the globe. The movie pays him due homage, but is not entirely historically accurate. There is a certain amount of picking and choosing and a blending of the facts. The writers, at certain points in the film, will take two parts of Yuanji's life that happened even years apart and put them into one scene. This is, however, a technique used in many epics. The movie

is about the fearless hero that was Yuanji, not the simple facts behind his life.

Fearless is truly a masterpiece, but it is not the film the previews make it out to be. Lovers of martial arts movies may hate it, while those disinterested in the genre may find it to be one of the greatest movies they have ever seen.

I recommend this to anyone, with a quick warning: If you go into this looking for a vacant action blockbuster, you will be sorely disappointed. It is a far cry from *Cradle 2 the Grave* and is the perfect film for Jet Li's final starring role. Then again, maybe he'll pull a Junior Seau and pop out of retirement, or even a Michael Jordan,

changing genres only to flop and return home.

Most Americans were first exposed to Jet Li in *Lethal Weapon 4* and then saw him in movies such as *Unleashed*, *Romeo Must Die*, and *Kiss of the Dragon* (which he also wrote). The 43-year-old has been doing movies in China for more than twenty years, and he is an icon on the other side of the world. His fighting and acting skills will surely be missed, but this writer believes that his has a lot more planned outside of the acting arena. Keep your eyes open.

GRADE: A-

Taste of the Town

with James McGhee '08
A&E Editor

Big Fish
370 Richmond St.
Providence, R.I.
(401) 751-FISH

Big Fish is a restaurant in the middle of an identity crisis.

A Tiki hut that may or may not serve as a summer bar marks the outside. I half expected the hostess to be wearing a hula skirt and to toss a lei around my neck. The atmosphere inside isn't Hawaiian, though. It's not New England. Actually, the dining room seems converted from an old automobile repair shop. When the waitress let some air in, she opened, with some difficulty, the big red garage doors.

But the identity crisis situation doesn't apply to the menu. Big Fish is a seafood restaurant—sushi and raw bar, salads, fresh fish, lobster, scallops, crab, and shrimp. You can order steak and chicken, but why would you?

For appetizers, the menu offers seafood pizzas, such as Crab Potato Gratin Pizza, and the typical assortment of fried calamari, crab cakes, etc. Felicia and I ordered the coconut shrimp. Besides being deliciously crunch, the coconut shrimp came on a finely-presented platter that makes sharing easy... for two people, that is. Unfortunately, although C (whom I dined with last week) was not invited, you can



MEGAN BISHOP '07/The Cowl

never trust someone who has worked for three intelligence agencies. C knew exactly when and where we would be dining and met up with us. I found this quite disturbing and had to excuse myself from the table to slip out underneath the garage door so I could take a breather in the Tiki hut, where I did not find any tequila and margarita mix.

We all ordered fish. The Pistachio

Crusted Red Snapper (\$22.95) topped with a shitake cream sauce is great qualitatively. Quantitatively, it lacked. You know, it was one of those nights where having a cereal cabinet helps. Felicia ordered the Ginger Mustard Glazed Salmon (\$22.95), which sparked a dilemma: Are you supposed to eat the skin on the bottom? And if you do, but aren't supposed to, what happens? We both ate a piece of the skin and

didn't feel any unsettling effects. You could do a lot worse eating spinach.

Our waitress probably won't be awarded Waitress of the Month, but she delivered the food without dropping it (I hope). Another note: No busboy stood by ready to refill the water glasses—a problem considering Big Fish's water glasses are not that large. You may not be aware, but this is a common problem that needs addressing. If you order a soda, though, they won't leave you alone; they continually ask to refill the huge soda glass. If you don't feel like having 200 grams of sugar, enough caffeine to induce heart palpitations, and phosphoric acid that bites at your stomach lining, then you're ignored.

I feel Big Fish is a little expensive. Appetizers average \$10 and entrées average about \$23. You have to pay well to get good seafood and Big Fish does have good seafood. Understand, though, that the menu is a la carte. Therefore, if you order fish, you don't get a salad or lots of sides. You can order a side or a salad separately for about \$7. The food is good, but I'm in no rush to return.

Felicia and I got lost driving to Big Fish. Don't trust the MapQuest directions, because they misled us. Here's a geographical point of reference to help you find the place: Big Fish is by FishCo.

GRADE: B

What hell sounds like

Amputecture's songs are too lengthy, disjointed, noisy, and lyrically impoverished to hold the album's grand ambitions

BY JOE McCORMACK '07
A&E STAFF

The Mars Volta
Amputecture
Unvd Labels

It's either hit or miss when you're as ambitious as The Mars Volta. Even though the group has the dynamic and prolific tandem of guitarist Omar Rodriguez-Lopez and singer Cedric Bixler-Zavala; Jon Theodore, who is arguably the best drummer in modern rock; and stellar musicians manning the other battle stations, their latest album, *Amputecture*, fails to turn their ambitions into a cohesive whole.

There is a half an hour of great music on this disc; unfortunately, the CD spins for 78 frustrating minutes. The band accomplishes this by making a four-minute song last eight minutes, a six-minute song last 13, and a 17-minute song last a fortnight. *Amputecture* will infuriate you for stealing minutes of your life by the fistful.

When the album is good, it combines the punk attitude of Fugazi, the soundscapes of Pink Floyd, and the virtuosity of Rush with the soul Latin rhythm. *Amputecture* breathes fire at times.

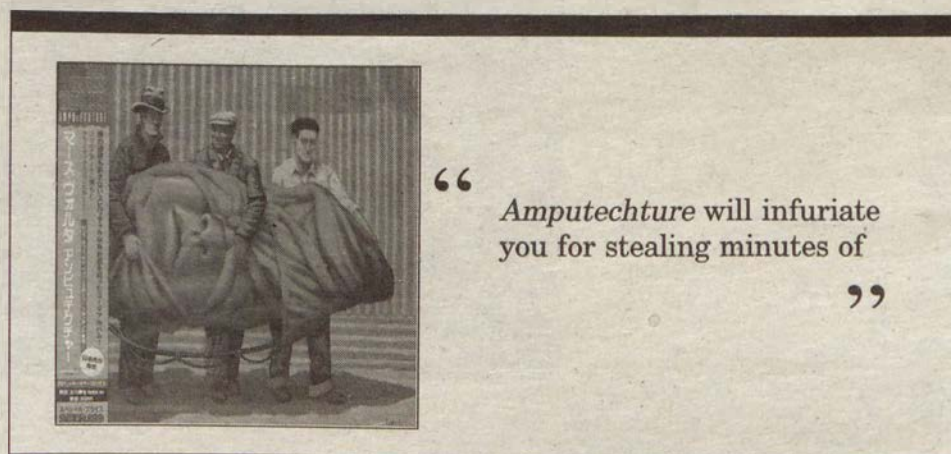
The trio of songs that saves the album comes in its second half. "Day of the Baphomets" begins with a nasty bass solo and explodes into a Latin-punk groove featuring manic horns and urgent, madman vocals. For the first five minutes, "Baphomets" sounds like a man come back from the dead to tell you what Hell is like. "Viscera Eyes" showcases Jon Theodore's subtlety behind the drums, infusing a simple groove with just the right amount of brick-wall backbeat and snare

drum frenetics to hold the chaotic funk together.

The disc's standout track is clearly "Asilos Magdalena," a Spanish-language acoustic gem. In most The Mars Volta songs, the dynamic interplay of Bixler-Zavala and Rodriguez-Lopez is characterized by disparate melodies and abrasive tones struggling to coexist. Here they move as one unit. Bixler-Zavala's lyrics, usually less sensible than *The Jabberwocky* (literally), weave themselves into the fabric of the song seamlessly. The elegance of the chorus bores a hole in the listener's soul and resides there: "En mi vida/el oscuro me matiene... en la lluvia me prometiste tu sangre" Bixler-Zavala's passionate, brittle waver and Rodriguez-Lopez's sparse guitar talk to each other in a way that the full band fails to achieve for most of the album.

Outside of those three songs, and select exceptions, the album stumbles. The biggest problem is a lack of dialogue between its parts. The 17-minute "Tetragrammaton" just stops at several points, only to start again at a different tempo, with different chords and different instrumentation. The parts have nothing to do with each other. We are left to assume that they're in the same song because they were written around the same time. To make matters worse, there is almost quality control; it seems like whatever came out first made it to the final disc. Rapid-fire prog scales fire off out of nowhere. Songs disintegrate into noise.

When the songs change without context, it kills the momentum that had been built up to that point. For a band that needs its listeners to become passionately involved with the music to move along its emotional roller coaster, murdering momentum is a cardinal sin. Without



“*Amputecture* will infuriate you for stealing minutes of

”

momentum, the flights of passion become “a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.”

The first thing most critics of The Mars Volta attack are the lyrics. *Amputecture* provides plenty to criticize. Bixler-Zavala disconnects the listener with lyrical content that, if it exists at all, is impenetrable. No one even wants to know lines like this mean: “That cesspool it becomes you/just north of the eyebrows/Squat the hole for a pucker/when the rations go blonde.”

Nonsense has worked for Bixler-Zavala in the past, however, when the sounds and cadence of the lyrics fit the song. A great example is the chorus of “Roulette Dares” from their 2003 masterpiece *De-loused in the Comatorium*; though it reads “Exoskeletal/junction at the railroad delayed,” it breathes with life in the correct context.

Too many of the lyrics on *Amputecture* either sound cut and pasted into the songs they inhabit or, even worse, sound cut and pasted on the level of individual words, without even a thought to grammatical sense, such as, “You stir from a

camp/nourishment plows.”

That is not to say all the lyrics are bad. The chorus to “Meccampuncture” breathes the way it should, even with the lyrics, “Please dismantle/all these phantom limbs./It's the evidence/of humans as ornaments/humans as ornaments.”

But the lyrics that engage the listener, such as, “These pews bend back your knees./That uniform wears you,” from “Tetragrammaton,” are few and far between.

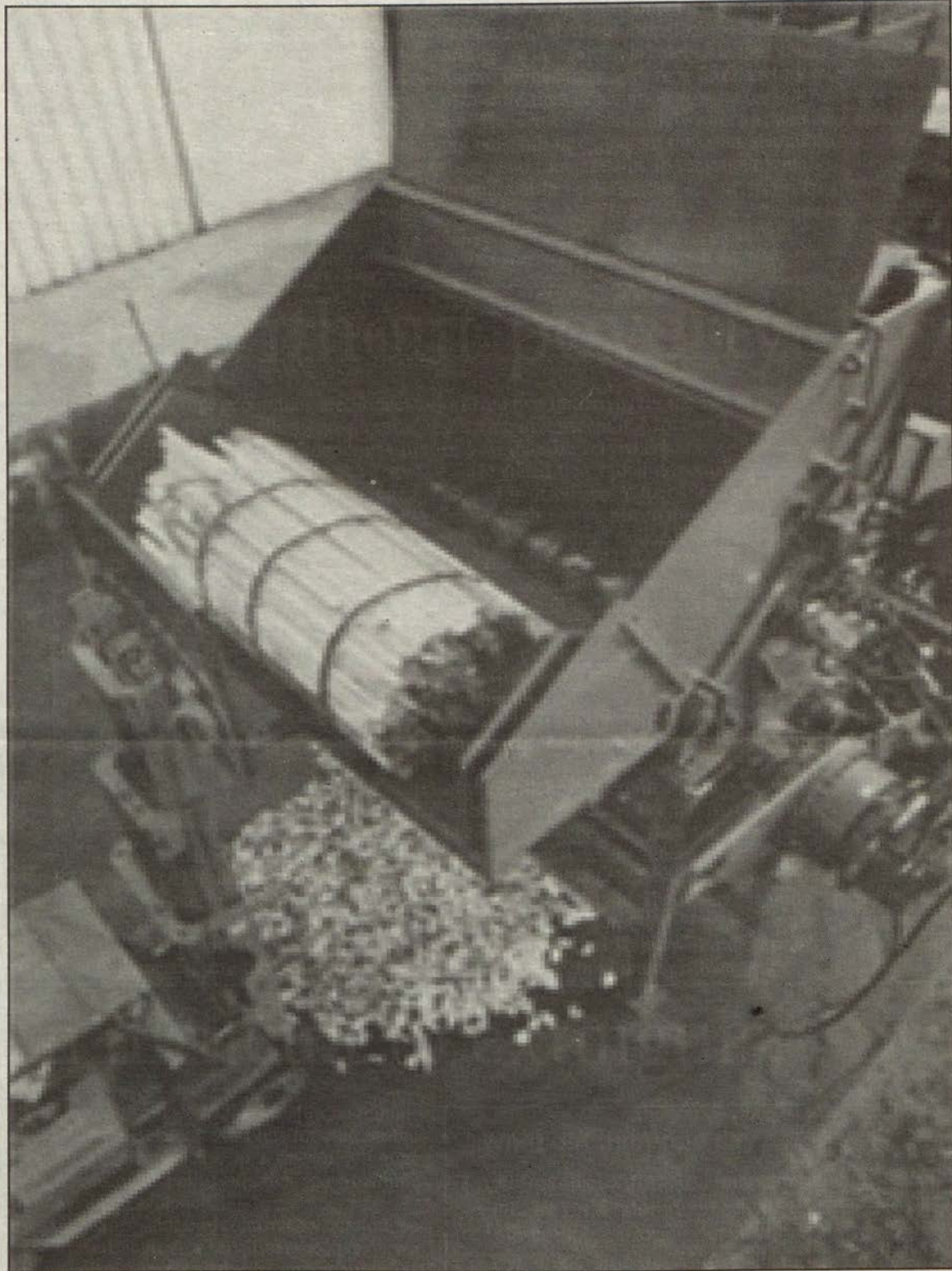
Amputecture contains the raw material for a great album. A lack of focus, however, makes the album more of a joke than a life-changing experience. Theodore quit the band just after the release, perhaps because he was frustrated that this band with limitless potential is still making rookie mistakes on its third full-length album.

GRADE: C+

Buy? No.

Download: “Asilos Magdalena” and “Day of the Baphomets”

“Oops, there goes
this week’s Cowl...”



Good thing we have
a Web site

www.TheCowl.com

Pink chalk and right slippers mark the spot

BY MEGAN BISHOP '07
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

Elmira hated a lot of things. She hated the ocean and seaweed when it stuck between her toes. She hated peas and the ice cream cones that were shaped like upside down triangles. She hated the girl in her fourth grade class who lived next to her, because her hair was long and blonde and curled at the ends. All Elmira had was brown puffy hair that just hung there like the roots of a plant pulled from the ground. Her mother yelled at her for using such an awful word about things she knew so little about. But, Elmira didn't care. The word hate was something she actually liked. It rhymed with words like skate and partake, it was short, she could spell it, and it described her perfectly sometimes.

Elmiiiiiiira

"How can you say that?" her mother would ask after Elmira announced she hated what her mother had cooked for dinner that night. Her mother would put down her napkin, and look Elmira right in the eye. Elmira would stare right back because she thought it was a stupid question to ask someone, anyone, especially your daughter. What she didn't like was up to her. So she would stay silent, searching her mother's eyes for her pupils instead. Her eyes were so dark that the little black dot and the deep brown color melted together like chocolate cake and chocolate frosting, and Elmira could never distinguish the two.

Even though she didn't respond, her

mother would never break her stare. It wasn't until Elmira's grandmother would drop a fork or mumble something about salt or pepper or paprika, that the attention would shift, usually leaving Elmira angry and without any pupil in sight.

It wasn't as if Elmira hated everything. That, most certainly, was not true. She liked lots of things, like crunchy peanut butter, her Cinderella storybook, and her dog, Beatrice. She liked the color green and the way the sky looked without clouds. And she liked to watch cartoons on Saturdays before drawing with chalk on her driveway. She couldn't understand why her mother couldn't just focus on the things she liked, and leave her and Beatrice alone to color the pavement with pictures of princesses who governed far away lands.

Instead, Elmira always seemed to have something to do that she hated, like homework or chores, or watching her grandmother—that's what it felt like to her anyway. It was as if every time she started to draw a great sidewalk design, or was finally teaching Beatrice how to fetch, her mother would stand on the front stoop to call her inside. She would yell her name and stretch it out, like it was a rubber band that was about to snap.

"Elmiiiiiiira." Sometimes Elmira wished she were deaf, like that little boy in her swimming class who was able to swim off into the deep end with his back turned, even after her teacher told everyone else to get out of the pool. She hated hearing her name, and wished it wasn't shouted for the entire neighborhood to hear. What kind of name was Elmira anyway? No one in her class was called the same thing and, furthermore, it was just some stupid town in the middle of a state she'd never really heard about. She bet that deaf boy liked his name, and that his mother never had to yell it across the yard. But,

because she could hear just fine, she'd have to run back toward the house to listen to her mother say:

"Grandma is watching *Murder, She Wrote* and might like some company." What was Elmira supposed to do with something like that? Respond with, "Sorry Mom, but I think you're wrong, Grandma likes to be alone for her programs?" No way. That would never work. One time Elmira tried to find her mother's pupils instead of answering, but that didn't work out as well as it did at the dinner table, because her Grandma wasn't there to drop a fork or need salt. The staring would go on for too long, maybe even until Beatrice would get loose, but that usually took awhile. She wasn't really good at sneaking away.

And that's what happened to Elmira one Saturday afternoon. She walked up the front stairs, with her feet pounding against the cement like she was trying to crack the sturdy surface until it crumbled, and there was nothing left but sand. No matter how hard she stomped, the stairs didn't break down, not even a little bit. She walked through her house and into the den, which she'd nicknamed "the dungeon," because it was always dark and damp, and made her feel like she was being held captive.

Her grandmother was watching TV like usual, with the lights switched off and the shades drawn. Elmira wondered if her grandmother even noticed she was there, with the darkness and the light of the TV holding both their gazes, it didn't seem like her grandmother needed much of anything, really. But, when she walked into the room, her grandmother said as she always did, "Hello Elmira," in a voice that suggested that she was, in fact, not com-

pletely focused on the T.V. Elmira really hated *Murder, She Wrote*. She'd never understand Angela Lansbury and her stupid typewriter. She always wondered if her grandmother wanted to be just like the character Jessica Fletcher, and maybe that was why she watched it so much. If her grandmother could solve mysteries instead of watching other people, maybe she'd

smile a little more.

A few weeks ago Elmira had decided to let her grandmother-

do just that. She decided that she'd "borrow" her grandmother's watch—the gold one with the diamond sitting next to the 12 on the face—and hide it. Elmira knew that her grandmother loved this watch and wore it every day. She also knew that she couldn't love it too much because she kept it on when she was cooking. And, as she had noticed, her grandmother always took off her wedding ring before digging her hands into hamburger mush or peeled whole tomatoes. Elmira had decided that if she could take the watch, and give her grandmother some clues, then maybe she could solve a mystery on her own.

She waited until her grandmother went into the bathroom one morning, and tiptoed into her room. She distinctly remembered tiptoeing, because she used to think it was a dumb method for walking, and only people that needed to tiptoe, like ballerinas, should ever really do it. She snuck into the room, and breathed in her grandmother's familiar scent, a mix of mint leaves and tomato sauce. She could almost taste it on the tip of her tongue. It grew stronger as she walked over to her dresser and snatched the watch. It felt heavy in her hands, far too heavy for a little girl to carry

ELMIRA/Page 18

Loving and losing my dear, sweet Reginold

BY JENNIFER McCAFFERTY '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Most people are familiar with the cliché, "It is better to have loved and lost than to have never loved at all." I can't remember who offered this particular tidbit of insight to the world, but I've always felt compelled to applaud him or her for the valiant attempt to be optimistic, despite what naysayers might say. However, the loss of Reginold was so devastating that it has cast my faith in this anonymous wisdom into doubt.

Who was Reginold, you ask? He was my first real love. I can still remember when we met: I was a high school girl just a few months shy of 16, and he was a 1989 blue Jeep Cherokee with a dented fender and patches of rust that I thought suggested ruggedness. My parents introduced him to me merely as a car they had been able to get for a ridiculously cheap price at a nearby dealership, but I saw much more than that. I saw power, freedom, and a means of getting more than five miles away from my house without having to call my mom to pick me up in Moby Dick, the great white minivan that cruised to the persistent soundtrack of musical theatre and/or Frankie Valli. It was love at first sight.

The name "Reginold" originated, appropriately enough, in driver's ed. I went to the classes with a few friends from school, and it was during a viewing of the cinematic classic *Highways of Blood* that I began circulating notes to them, asking for advice in naming my new car. While they had some decent suggestions, none of them seemed to fit the majesty of the car. My friends were more concerned with the

cracked rear view mirror, his duct-taped seatbelts, his gum-smears on seat bottoms, than with what he represented. However, our discourse was then interrupted by the moody driver's ed teacher, who directed our attention back to the film.

At that precise moment, Officer Reginold McStankerson appeared on the screen to talk about the dangers of speeding in residential areas. He was leaning against a rather beaten-up police cruiser, occasionally flipping his mullet bangs out of his eyes and stroking the dingy badge on his chest. But, we could make no mistake: This was a man truly dedicated to law enforcement, and he was serious about pulling over those who were willing to put themselves and the innocent neighborhood children who, apparently, played kickball in the streets at night, into mortal danger. I was inspired, and Reginold found his namesake.

Reginold and I began spending a great deal of time together when I finally got my driver's license, and right away, I felt his influence in my life. Not only was I at liberty to get out of the house essentially whenever I wanted, but I also began learning several important life lessons. I found new places in the city that I had never known existed (often by mistake). I learned to harness the power of acceleration in such a way that I got a rush without getting caught. I became so well-trained in the art of CD adapters that I could change CDs while simultaneously drinking coffee. And, perhaps above all else, I learned to curse like an Irish pirate.

This is not to say we didn't have our rough spots. There was the time when Reginold disagreed with a pothole and broke down in a sketchy neighborhood in



Reginold, how do I love thee? Let me count the ways...

www.joshuas-tree.com

the rain while I, decked out in my Catholic schoolgirl uniform and sans cell phone, was on my way to school. And then there was the time he went through his "unidentifiable smell in the trunk" phase. However, I don't like to dwell on the bad times. The good times more than compensated for the bad.

When I came to college, I left Reginold at home with my parents, but every time I came home for breaks, he was there waiting for me. All of this changed at the end of this summer, though. The night before I returned to school, my dad knocked on my door while I was packing. He sat me down and told me that Reginold had been totaled on the corner of Erie and Observatory and was beyond repair. Needless to say, I was distraught, despite my father's attempts to

comfort me with words about Reginold's long and happy life.

For a while I wondered if it would have been better if Reginold had never come into my life at all. The thought of coming home without seeing him was depressing on so many levels that I wondered if any car could ever mean as much to me as he did.

Ultimately, though, I've realized that Reginold was too crucial a part of my life to have not had. He may not have been the nicest-looking of cars, and he may have smelled like dead vermin at times, but the things he taught me and the experiences we had I would never want to give up. Indeed, I am happy to have loved Reginold; may he rest in peace.



Tiffany & Earl

Making PC an emotionally stable place, one letter at a time...



Dear Furry,

Girls like to change boys, and for many, nothing satisfies them more than to look at their beloved and believe that they have made them better. For some girls, this remains on an emo-

tional level, and for others it rests solely on aesthetics. You, my friend, look like you have the latter for a girlfriend.

I think the real question is how much man-scaping are we talking about—does she want you to completely shave yourself, so that you appear rubber chicken-esque, or does she want a little trim here and there?

There is truly nothing wrong with a little trimming every so often, but an extreme man-scape takes time and commitment. This is not a one time deal, so get ready for weekly grooming. If you're willing to do that for the one you love, then I commend you and wish you well. Just please invest in a kind razor.

And also watch out for your girlfriend. If she is able to get you to loose your fur sweater, what's next? Plucking that uni-brow, wearing shorts below the knee? Somehow, somewhere, find yourself and try not to loose it. You'll probably be broken up by the snowball anyways. Happy snipping.

Tiffany

This Week... to snip or not to snip

Dear Tiffany and Earl,

My mother is Italian and my father is Armenian. The reason I tell you this information is because I have genetics which have forcibly made me wear a "fur sweater" year round. With hair covering nearly every square inch of my body, I have not had the best of luck with the opposite sex—at least that's what I attribute it to. College however, has brought many new opportunities including my first girlfriend. The problem lies in the fact that although she likes me, she wants a "man-scaping" crew to come in and do an overhaul. It seems like a lot of work. I really like my hair, and man-scaping doesn't seem too manly... but I also like my girlfriend and want to make her happy. What should I do?

Your Furry Friend

*Falling in love in Civ class?
Worried about JRW already?
Let us help you help yourself.
Write to Tiffany and Earl!
AskTiffanyEarl@yahoo.com*

Dear Furry,

Sorry to hear about your problem, but, this is not Queer Eye for the Hairy Guy. I am not really the source of hair grooming advice. You see I have strange hormones and missed a few stages of puberty. I have only shaved twice in my life and that was to sculpt the perfect moustache that you see on my ruggedly good-looking face.



We are men. As a result of this, much like the mighty Samson, our source of power comes from our flowing locks. Now whether these locks are on our head or braided down our shoulders and spine makes no difference. It is what gives us our towering control over women. So although you like this "girlfriend" of yours, do not make the same mistake as Samson. Avoid allowing this modern day Delilah to emasculate you—as well as men everywhere.

I agree with Tiffany to some extent. I believe that you should do what makes you happy. This girl is looking for a Ken doll whom she can dress up. Once she has control over you she'll get bored and move on—to the next hairy man. But, with all due respect, no one really likes hooking up with Yetis. It is for that reason that I stopped dating hippie-chicks, Italians, and French women. So, trim if you must, but refrain from wide-scale man-scaping.

EARL

Elmira: Bringing cynicism to a whole new level

continued from page 17

on her wrist, so she stuffed it into the back pocket of her jeans. Before leaving the room, Elmira left some clues: A broken piece of pink sidewalk chalk and her mother's right slipper that she had been hiding under her bed. She trusted her grandmother's instincts and figured that in the next few days she'd knock on her door with a smile on her face, asking Elmira to return the watch.

That, of course, hadn't happened yet. And Elmira was beginning to think that maybe it never would. Suddenly, her mother was wearing two slippers again, and Elmira could swear that the broken piece of pink chalk was back in the box the following Saturday. Her grandmother remained mum about the watch, not seemed to care where it had snuck off to. And now, Elmira was stuck carrying this watch around all the time, feeling guilty about trying to be nice. She hated feeling guilty. And, now she hated that whenever she asked her grandmother the time, she'd always motion to the nearest clock, not even for an accidental second, looking at her wrinkled wrist.

So there Elmira sat, next to her grandmother on the dungeon's couch that was probably around before they even invented sidewalk chalk. She hated the couch—that was for certain. And she also hated that the opening credits of the show were on the screen, and that her mouth was filled with the scent of mint and tomato. Elmira turned to look at her grandmother, who had said nothing else since her usual greeting. Her skin hung off her chin like a dodge ball that had been kicked too hard. And her hair was whiter than the flour she used to bake bread on Sundays. Elmira wondered how old her grandmother was. But, the more she thought about it, the more she didn't want to know. She remembered hearing on the T.V. news that most people die when they are 72.5, so she thought it

better off that she was left guessing, instead of sadly counting down the days.

"Hey Gram?" Elmira asked, watching her grandmother's profile flicker with the sporadic radiance of the T.V.

"Yes, Elmira."

Elmira was going to ask if her grandmother had already seen this episode of *Murder, She Wrote*. She was confident that she'd seen it herself, about a month ago, when it was too wet outside for sidewalk chalk. But, then she changed her mind and asked, "Why do you always say my name when you talk to me? Like you always say 'Hello, Elmira,' and 'Yes, Elmira,' or 'Elmira, where is the salt shaker?'"

Her grandmother's lips, which had previously rested in a straight line, broke into a smile. She turned to Elmira and looked her in the eye. Her grandmother's gaze was unlike her mother's. Her eyes looked softer, almost cloudy, and they were blue like a swimming pool, or the ocean without seaweed or jelly fish.

"Because it's a beautiful name."

"Well, I don't think so," Elmira blurted out, without much thought.

Her grandmother's smiled wavered slightly, and she turned her attention back to Angela Lansbury. Elmira soon forgot the conversation, and leaned back against the couch to watch an episode she was sure she'd seen. She imagined herself sinking slowly into the brown, dimpled fabric. Maybe this was like falling into quicksand, she thought. Soon she was up to her eyes, and they closed, leaving Angela and her grandmother to themselves.

Later that night, Elmira sat at the table, pushing her peas to one side of her plate, while she developed a plan to dispose of them. She wished that Beatrice could be a good dog, and quietly eat them, without spitting them back up into her water dish. She'd never understand why her mother couldn't stop making peas. She was pretty

sure she'd made it clear that she didn't like them.

"Elmira, dear, I'd like to see those peas travel more toward your mouth, and less toward the napkin." Her mother said this, first pointing to her mouth and then to her own napkin, which rested in her lap. Elmira hated her mother's voice when she made a suggestion like that. It was like she was trying to sing a command, like those people at amusement parks telling you to keep your hands inside the cart. With great force, Elmira stuck her fork into three peas that had rolled into the middle of her plate and looked straight at her mother, gripping her fork with angst.

"Oh, my goodness, I need some water. Water anyone?" Elmira's grandmother said after a few tense moments of staring. With no response, her grandmother got up from her seat and walked toward the refrigerator. As she stepped across the linoleum, the dim kitchen light reflected off of something on her grandmother's wrist. Elmira's eyes were drawn almost instantly.

She could just barely distinguish it, as it peeked from beneath her grandmother's long sleeve, but she was sure of it. The watch was back on her wrist as if it had never been lost. When her grandmother turned back from the refrigerator with a glass of water, Elmira looked straight down and resumed stabbing her peas. She hoped that she could collect them all in one forkful.

Her mother said nothing for the remainder of dinner, and the only sounds that emanated from the kitchen were Elmira's fork hitting her plate and her mother's deep, intentional sighs. Elmira could barely contain her excitement. As she slipped into bed that night, Elmira thought of her grandmother sleeping on the other side of the wall. She wondered when her skin would start to stretch like that or if her eyes would turn into windows of the cloudy sky



www.thelmagazine.com

Angela Lansbury, solving our life problems one at a time.

one day. She rolled over and reached for her Cinderella storybook, the one she read each night to help her sleep. Her hand hovered slightly over her nightstand until she realized that her favorite book was not where it was last. She threw her covers off quickly, as if she had been alerted of a fire, and jumped onto the cool hardwood floor headed for her bookcase. She pulled out each book, scanning its cover, always knowing that it didn't feel the right way between her fingers. Anxiously, Elmira scanned the room. Then she darted back toward her bed, and thrust her arm beneath. Instead of her storybook, however, she felt two foreign objects. When she brought them out into the light of her bedroom she held her mother's right slipper and a salt shaker. Elmira stood up from her crouched position and set the objects on her nightstand before crawling back into bed.

The hokey pokey

BY KRISTINA REARDON '08
ASSOCIATE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

There I was, waving my hands in front of me in circles, doing some kind of hackneyed line dance, or else waving frantically at the wall, hoping it would wave back.

That, of course, was *not* what I was trying to do, but rather what those who passed me must have thought I was doing. Let me clarify: I was attempting to coax air out of one of those no-touch hand dryers in a public restroom, trying to activate the supposed sensor that resides inside.

What fascinates me about public restrooms is the method in which you are expected to dry your hands after having washed them. In a valiant attempt to save our planet, restroom designers have, in recent years, installed hand dryers in many public restrooms, replacing the paper towel dispensers of old.

In my youth, such dryers required you to press a large metal button, resulting in the free flow of air on freshly washed hands. Nowadays, those nice metal buttons are a thing of the past. This is due to the fact that a large faction of germ-o-phobes approached an equally large faction of environmentalists at some grand convention five years ago (a convention which none of the rest of us were invited to), and argued for days about the value of paper towels versus hand dryers. The result was a great compromise on the scale of the Geneva Convention. Now, when you walk into a bathroom, you shockingly find that there are no more metal buttons on hand dryers. That is, unless you are using a public restroom which still uses paper towels (the horror!) or one which has not yet decided to exchange the metal button dryers for metal button-less dryers.

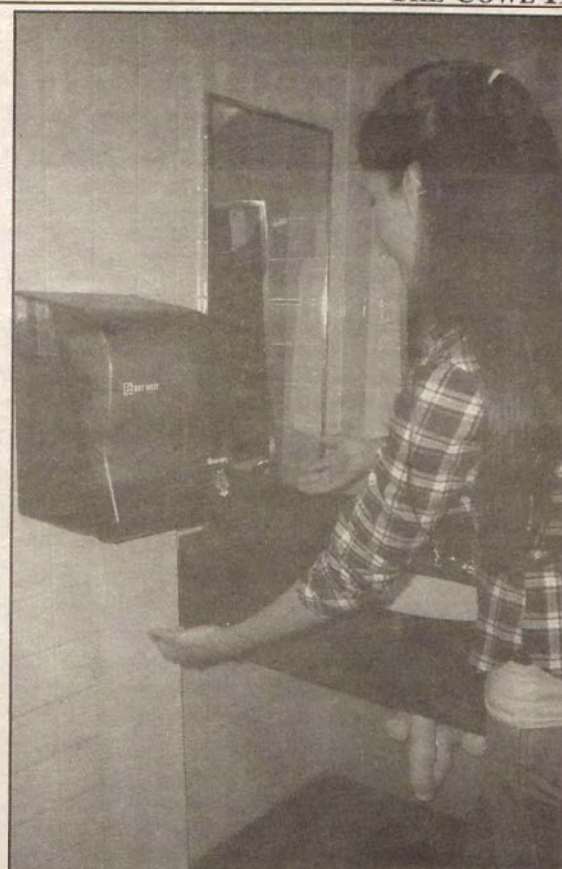
There was one problem at the great "get-rid-of-paper-towels" convention: The germ-o-phobes forgot to demand that the dryers actually turn on when one waves one's hands in front of them. My guess is that the environmentalists thought it would make for a good time if they installed little cameras in the dryers instead of sensors, and the result is that some tree hugging group is now watching me frantically wagging my arms, with a befuddled expression on my face, at their latest convention.

The other result, of course, is that you must walk out of a restroom with wet hands, either wiping them on your clothing and thus completely ruining any fashion statement, or you must endure wet hands until they air dry. If you choose this particular course of action, however, you must be ready for suspicious stares, as no one can really be sure if your hands are dripping because you actually washed your them, or if you're a disgusting, pathetic, creep of a loser who can't manage the primal human task of using a restroom without making a mess of yourself. You know what I mean.

The thing that I hate most about the current state of affairs is that there are actually people who have managed to seduce or bewitch these no-touch hand dryers into working. This, of course, conveniently happens when there are two such hand dryers placed side by side in a given restroom. A fellow hand washer leaves the sink at the same time I do, and miraculously dries his or her hands in a matter of moments (while exposing his or her bones as a result of the high velocity of the air), while I am left to perfect the hand motions to the hokey pokey right next to said person.

When the person leaves, I make a mad dash to the hand dryer, hands out in front of me as if I were reaching for that game-

the art of & activating no touch hand dryers



MEGAN BISHOP '07/The Cowl

winning pass—and the hand dryer turns off just as my fingertips touch the last bit of air.

I, of course, am unable to convince the hand dryer to turn back on, no matter how many times I put my right hand in, take my right hand out, put my right hand in, and shake it all about.

But the true horror of my life occurred this past weekend, when I entered a restroom at a local restaurant, relieved to see a paper towel dispenser. Upon washing my hands, however, I noticed a blinking red light—and realized that the germ-o-phobes had recently convened with the paper towel people in an attempt to ruin my life.

I did not even bother with the Macarena in front of this machine.

Since that day, I have aired my grievances with many innocent civilians and bathroom-goers, all of whom have nodded politely in return, holding their purses closely to their bodies, and bolting out of the bathroom as fast as their legs can take them. From this, I can only conclude that they experience the same frustration and wholeheartedly sympathize with me.

Of course, I expect you to be able to as well. And if you are unable to, I can't help but suggest that you either have not been to a public restroom lately. . . or you don't partake in hand washing, you sick-o.

Poetry Corner

Slideshow

BY SARAH ARNINI '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Can my life be defined by a slideshow?

—Snap—

Snapshots from summer and two years ago
Dance across the screen.

A blurry mirage of some kids I once knew
Or some kid I once was
Flashes before my eyes.

—Flash—

Do the faces define me?
Smiles and laughter,
Curiosity, surprise, and fear.

—Snap—

Am I defined by the people I know and the
roads I have traveled?

—Click—

Looking at this layout of time
Stretched before me like the city map,
I see it is a map of times and places and people I know.

The pictures define me,
Every angle and pose.
The photos of memories which passed long ago
Linger here in front of me
Leaving imprints of their images on my soul.

—Fade—



SARAH ARNINI '07/The Cowl

Untitled

BY DAN MEEHAN '07
PORTFOLIO STAFF

The _____,
into Rothko's chapel,
non-denominational, somewhere
in the desert of Arizona,
where the wind cups its sandy mouth,
groaning on a stringed instrument,
a clattery grey walled sentiment
when the methods of gloom, the
operatic poet of the howling drum,
can't be tamed, but rolled out and
exploded into the cacophonous
periphery of the wolf's howl.

When inside the tongue is held and
sliced for fear of eerie disruption
among the silent walls, padded
for sound bounces and smooth
silvery crashing waves, tapping
at the pulse of a screaming banshee
keyboard player zoning in on my
paranoidmainsailmindofmouthed
-movements-
a mercurial frog, laying burnt
by the slip

p
i
ng sun of insomnian
bad mouthed highway maps to
the back three walls of a
stained glass epiphany.

And then the bottom opens up,
and musical notes bite and claw
their way up the legs of my paints
with a sharp/gentle stab to my
temple, centered perfectly calm in
Rothko's chapel.

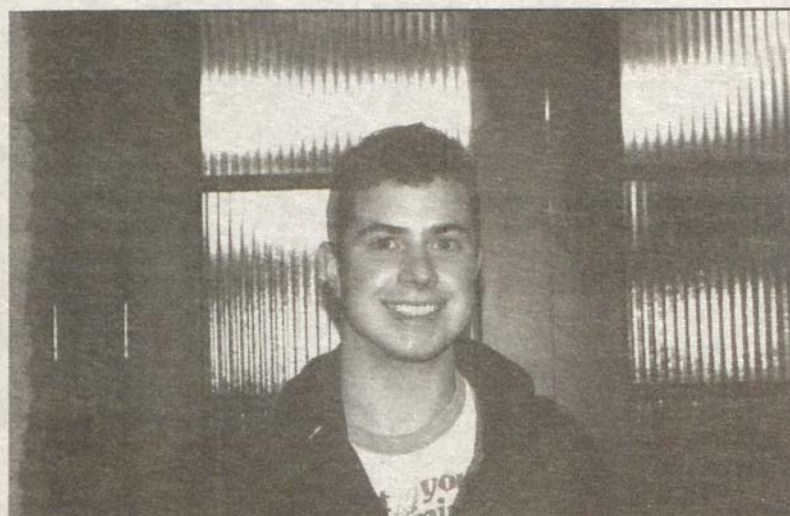
The opening of the blinds,
closing of the stones,
locking of the lanterns,
mocking of the embezzled
glass shard pot driven blanket
brass horned cadavers.

Open to complaints and praises,
literary phases, extramarital
affairs with words and stages
and nouns and statements with
no footnote and no replacement,
to remain milky and transparent
on each occasion.

Now here it comes back into
vision, the electricity scattered
scantly in water pools, murky
basements and ghoulish mothers
hunting their sons and stealing
their daughters, to a face
marked by a cigarette comes
calling home for us to face him,
I see nothing more to the picture
than the four walls that hold you,
I've done nothing short of dress myself
in the sounds that uphold you.

Be gone now, be absent
for the days spent now leaving
toward dark before the
chapel relapses.

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?



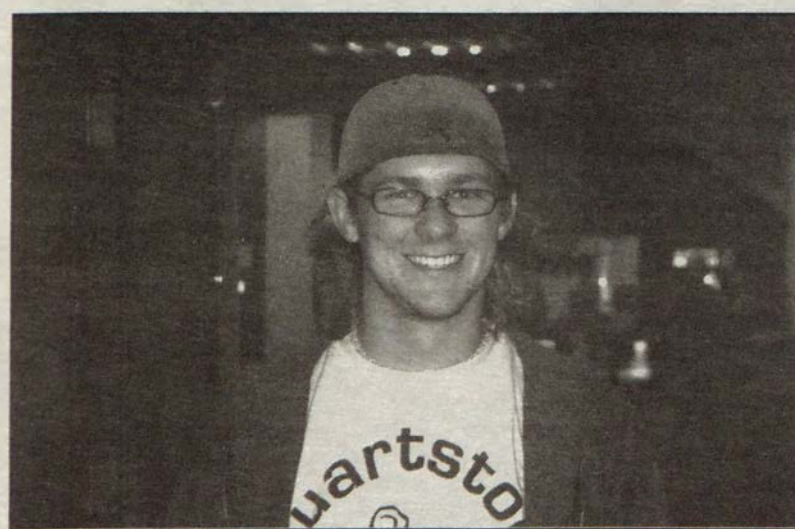
"He would never chuck."
Darren Helstowski '08



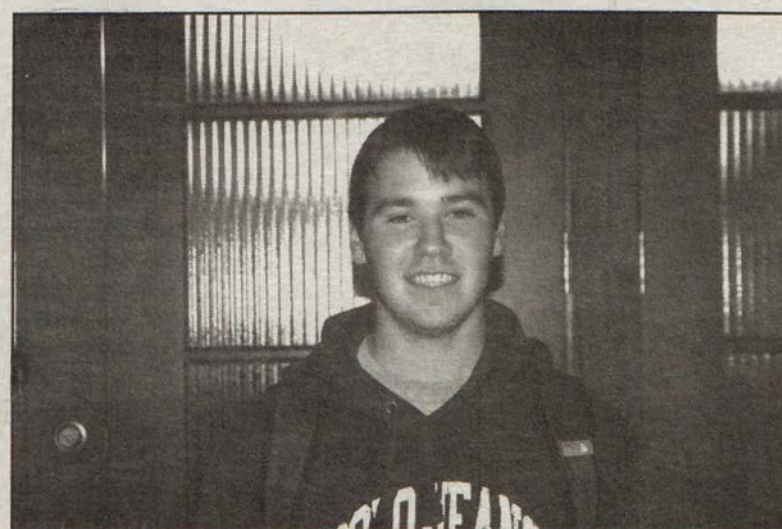
"Three large redwoods."
Kellie Giangregorio '09



"A woodchuck would chuck all the wood he could chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood... I think."
Colleen Flynn '07 and Allison Cleary '07



"Two sycamores, the he'd be tired."
Peter Boggeman '08



"Until he's full."
Matthew Hodge '09



"The world may never know."

Walter A. Chuck

Friars Scoreboard

Scores -- Standings -- Statistics -- Schedules -- Standouts

Standouts



Nellie Poulin
Field Hockey
Freshman—Oakland, Maine

Poulin pulled the strings for the No. 15 Friars this past week, notching assists on PC's first two goals in a 4-1 win over Maine. With four goals and five assists on the year, Poulin is second on the team in points.



Jonathan Medcalf
Men's Soccer
Freshman—Tulsa, Okla.

Medcalf was named Big East Rookie of the Week—and that was before he notched the game winner in PC's 3-2 win over Holy Cross on Tuesday. The freshman forward leads the Friars with four goals this season.

Scores

Friday 9/22		
Volleyball at Sacred Heart	W, 3-0	
Women's Soccer at USF	L, 2-0	
Saturday 9/23		
Women's Tennis at URI Shootout	Indiv. Results	
Field Hockey at Maine	W, 4-1	
Men's Soccer at Marquette	W, 1-0	
Volleyball vs. Columbia (Fairfield, Conn.)	L, 3-0	
Volleyball vs. Wagner (Fairfield, Conn.)	L, 3-2	
Sunday 9/24		
Women's Tennis at URI Shootout	Indiv. Results	
Women's Soccer vs. Marquette	L, 2-0	
Tuesday 9/26		
Men's Soccer at Holy Cross	W, 3-2	
Wednesday 9/27		
Field Hockey at Harvard	W, 2-1	

Schedules

Friday 9/29	
Volleyball at Maryland Eastern Shore Tourney	12:00 p.m.
Cross Country at Notre Dame Invitational	3:00 p.m.
Women's Soccer at Georgetown	3:00 p.m.
Volleyball vs. Howard	6:00 p.m.
Saturday 9/30	
Women's Tennis vs. Merrimack	12:00 p.m.
Men's Soccer vs. Georgetown	1:00 p.m.
Women's Ice Hockey vs. Toronto Jr. Aeros	2:00 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. Rutgers	2:30 p.m.
Sunday 10/1	
Women's Tennis at Holy Cross	12:00 p.m.
Women's Soccer at Villanova	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday 10/2	
Women's Tennis at Rhode Island	3:00 p.m.
Men's Soccer vs. UConn	3:00 p.m.
Women's Volleyball at Brown	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 10/3	
Women's Volleyball vs. Rhode Island	6:00 p.m.
Field Hockey vs. Boston College	7:00 p.m.

Standings

NFHCA/STX Division I Field Hockey Poll (9/26)				Men's Soccer Big East Blue Division Standings (9/26)							
Team	Votes			Big East				Overall			
				Team	W	L	T	Pts.	W	L	T
1. Maryland	739	11. American	284	West Virginia	4	0	1	13	7	1	2
2. Wake Forest	689	12. Indiana	270	Connecticut	4	0	1	13	5	2	2
3. Old Dominion	678	13. Louisville	254	Providence	4	1	0	12	7	2	0
4. Duke	622	14. California	246	Seton Hall	4	1	0	12	6	3	0
5. Ohio State	563	15. Providence	204	Notre Dame	3	2	0	9	5	3	2
6. North Carolina	540	16. Villanova	203	Pittsburgh	2	2	1	7	3	5	2
7. Boston College	488	17. James Madison	161	Georgetown	2	3	0	6	3	6	0
8. Virginia	446	18. William & Mary	155	Marquette	0	5	0	0	1	8	1
9. Penn State	443	19. Richmond	132								
10. Connecticut	362	20. Michigan	97								

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ST59

LESS THAN JAKE

Michael Ian Black
Michael Showalter

The Saw Doctors

THE STROKES

FLOGGING MOLLY

KT TUNSTALL

GREAT BIG SEA

Yonder Mountain
String Band

GOOD CHARLOTTE

FIERY FURNACES

STORY OF THE YEAR

MATT NATHANSON
CARBON LEAF

30 SECONDS to MARS

MINDLESS SELF
INDULGENCE

A F I

REV. HORTON HEAT

Broken Social Scene

Red Jumpsuit
Apparatus

ZIGGY MARLEY

ANI DIFRANCO

CITIZEN COPE

Medeski Scofield
Martin & Wood

+ 4 4

Angels & Airwaves

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BADFISH

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FH: Friars rise to No. 15 in nat'l rankings

continued from back page

She now leads the team in goals with six on the year to go along with her six assists, another team high.

"She's a special kid," said Madl of McGow, the senior captain. "She's been very consistent and steady all year. Melissa's been very well-rounded on and off the field, and I'm glad to see her shining."

"This was a game we knew we had to win since we lost to them last year," said Jess Lane, a sophomore defender who had one shot and one assist against Maine. "We came out strong, and we really focused."

As usual, Providence's defense was stellar, particularly Chamberlain who allowed only one goal while saving eight Black Bear shots, tying her career high in saves. "Rachel came in strong, and she's only improved," said Lane of Chamberlain. "There's been no change with her playing instead of a veteran [goaltender]." For her efforts against both Maine and in the win at Georgetown on Wednesday, Sept. 20, Chamberlain was named the Big East Defensive Player of the Week for the third straight week.

The win at Maine helped the Friars to move up one place in the national field hockey rankings from No. 16, where they had spent the last two weeks, to No. 15.

The Friars were looking for their third straight win and 10th overall when they took on Harvard University on Wednesday, Sept. 27 in Cambridge, Mass.

"Harvard is always very good even though they're struggling right now," said Madl before the game. "It's always a battle with them but we finally broke the seal against them last year when we won in overtime. I'm expecting another very close match."

Providence beat Harvard 2-1, the same score as last year, but it was a much different story from 2005, when the match went into overtime. The game was not as close as the score indicates. The Friars dominated the first half, not even allowing a Crimson shot on goal.

The PC offense got off to a great start. Both Friar goals came before halftime. McGow scored unassisted at 14:00 while junior Abby Maguire netted her fourth season goal minutes later.

These two points would prove to be enough, as only one Crimson shot eluded Chamberlain when Harvard's Gretchen Fuller scored with less than five minutes to play in the second half. Chamberlain once again led the solid Providence defense and recorded one save.

"Harvard was one of our biggest wins last year," said McGow earlier this week. "We're going to go in there and try to beat them with confidence, or at least play a good game."

This week, the Friars return to Big East action in their home game against Rutgers (4-8).

"When it comes time to play these Big East matches, the games are always very intense, and we're looking toward more of the same," said Madl. "Rutgers is young but they've got a lot of talent."

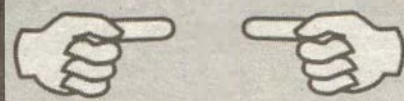
The Friars will take on the Scarlet Knights, a squad comparable to their own, stacked with gifted underclassmen, when the two teams meet in Providence on Saturday, Sept. 30, at 2:00 pm.

On Wednesday, Providence will face former conference rival No. 7 Boston College (8-2), also at home, at 7:00 p.m., which is sure to be another challenging match.

"We played them in the spring and ended in a tie," said Lane. "It's going to be a competitive game but we're ready."

And if the Friars' record thus far is an indicator, this team has shown they can play with anyone. They have already beaten two ranked opponents this season, current No. 20 Michigan on Sept. 3, and what was at the time No. 18 Northeastern University on Sept. 8.

PCI



With strong returning starters like Chris Konopka '07, Ryan Maduro '08, Scott Hankard '07 and Matt Otte '08, and the great play of Kevin Neumen '09 and Alex Bury '08, do you think the Friars' Men's Soccer team has a legitimate shot at challenging the perennial Big East powerhouses like UConn, West Virginia, and St. John's for the Big East title this year? —Pat Brand '08

This team certainly has the potential to do so. Though they lost many who contributed a great deal to last year's success, there are still more who returned. They bring their collective experiences to the table as an example for the incoming freshmen.

A big difference from last year's team is that this year's team can score. Not to say that last year's did not, but this team puts a few more in. That, coupled with the tenacious defense we have seen in the past few years, is the recipe for a good team. What also helps the team, standings-wise, is that they are winning rather than tying their contests. Though they are not undefeated—as last year's squad was at this point—they have more wins, meaning more points overall.

And of course, a key factor that simply cannot be ignored is the coach. Chaka Daley, last year's New England Coach of the Year, fosters a spirit of hard work, perseverance, and attention to fundamentals. There is a reason why Daley won the award; it was clear last year and will certainly show this year. This team has shown their strength both on the road and at home this year. With a pair of road wins this week, and a weekend at home, things look like they may even get better.

There is no guarantee for this team's success, but they seem to be well on their way. The freshmen are already contributing, and the team is coming closer together every day. This certainly should be an interesting few months.

—Ryan Holt '09

Remember, Cowl readers . . . we want to hear from you! Just e-mail your questions either about PC sports or sports in general to cowlsports@gmail.com and we'll do our best to answer them—and stir up a little debate if we can.

Thanks,
The Cowl Sports Staff

That's a tough question to answer, Pat, because I'm not sure if we know enough about this team yet. While the key contributors you mentioned are back, the Friars graduated a senior class—kids like Eoin Lynch, Anthony Petrarca, Derek Nobrega, Ian Wexler and Zach Tobin—that formed the backbone of Coach Daley's best team yet. Certainly the early returns on those that have stepped up in their place have been good: Freshman Jonathon Medcalf is the reigning Big East Rookie of the Week and leads the team with four goals, and several other newcomers have assumed large roles as well.

When will we find out if this team has what it takes? Mark your calendars: Next Tuesday, Oct. 3, against UConn at 3:00 p.m. PC's earlier overtime loss to Big East power St. John's came at vaunted Belson Stadium in New York, but this tilt is in the Friars' backyard. If they want a shot at the Big East title this year, then this match really has to be a statement game. Realistically, it's a lot to ask Coach Chaka Daley and company to challenge for Big East supremacy after losing that many four-year contributors, but I've made the mistake of doubting this team before, and I've learned to never say never again.

In any case, my esteemed colleague Ryan hit the nail on the head: Having Daley at the helm ensures that even if the Friars can't quite make the step up this season, the time when PC joins the Big East's soccer elite shouldn't be too far down the road.

—Kevin O'Brien '09

Friars: Big homestand ahead

continued from back page

With just minutes remaining, a game in which the Friars held the lead twice was looking to be heading to overtime. But with 4:21 to play, Medcalf spared PC's blushes when he netted his second game-winner in as many matches.

"We never panicked; we gained a sense of urgency. We really woke up in those last few minutes," said Maduro.

This weekend the Friars return home after a tough stretch. They begin a four-game homestand against Georgetown on Saturday. Two other Big East opponents, Connecticut and Pittsburgh, will then visit, with the final game of the homestand against crosstown rival Brown, the lone remaining non-conference opponent on the schedule.

"We're delighted to be back at home. It was great to get all those wins on the road, three of four. We're excited to have five of our last seven at home," said Daley.

With Georgetown coming here on Saturday, the Friars have a chance to put some distance between them and other Big East opponents in the standings. Currently, the Friars have a one-point advantage on the Hoyas, and a win Saturday would put them in prime position for the Big East playoffs.

"This is going to be a tough game," said Maduro. "This game is vital. With a win we can stay on top and be real contenders," he said.

Daley agreed, saying, "Our destiny is in our hands. We have to stay hungry."

Men's & Women's Intramural Soccer

Tuesday Oct. 3rd
Captains' meeting 6pm
Workers meeting 7pm
Slavin G01

Congratulations Team Goodness for winning the dodge ball tournament & team Nepal for their sportsmanship!

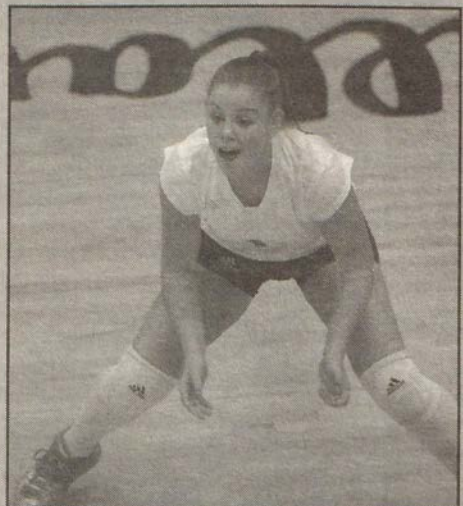


FRIARS Update

A recap of the week in Providence sports

Volleyball bounced from Sacred Heart tournament

Heading out to Fairfield, Conn., this past weekend, the Women's Volleyball team participated in Sacred Heart University's tournament on Friday and Saturday.



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

While the Friars were able to overcome the host of the competition, 3-0, the ladies would soon fall to Sacred Heart's other guests, Columbia, 3-0, and Wagner, 3-2. Sophomores Sara Sheehan and Jeanette Toney paced PC's efforts on the day, with Sheehan tallying 33 setting assists versus the host Pioneers and a whopping 46 in the nightcap against Wagner. Toney was effective as well, notching eight kills and five blocks against Sacred Heart, six kills against Columbia, and four blocks against Wagner. For her efforts, Toney was named to the All-Tournament team.

The results of this past weekend leave the Friars at 6-8 for the season. This upcoming weekend, they hope to improve their record as they serve-up against St. Francis, Howard, and Farleigh Dickinson at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore on Friday and Saturday. The games are scheduled for 12:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., and 9:00 a.m., respectively.

Mixed results for Friars at Shootout

The Providence College Women's Tennis team met with mixed results this past weekend as it traveled to Kingston, R.I. for the URI Shootout this past Saturday. Among the competition were girls from Sacred Heart University, the New Jersey Institute of Technology, and Fairfield University. A total of 10 Friars would compete in singles and doubles play at the Shootout, but only a handful would come out of their matches victorious.

Among the girls that would post wins on the day would be senior Therese Griffin and sophomore Christiane Darby. The two would pair up for doubles competition in

round one versus Sacred Heart. Griffin and Darby steamrolled the competition, recording an 8-0 victory—as well as PC's only win over the Sacred Heart Pioneers.

Round two of singles play in the competition would bring about a win for sophomore Amy McDevitt. Playing opposite of NJIT's Grace Bogdan, McDevitt would post an 8-2 victory.

Rounding out the singles play, sophomore Ashley Rissolo would post an 8-4 come-from-behind victory. In Round Four, while eight Friars competed, Rissolo had PC's sole win versus Fairfield as she toppled Marisa Voloshin.

The Friars will return to action this Saturday, September 30, as they play host to Merrimack at 12:00 p.m.

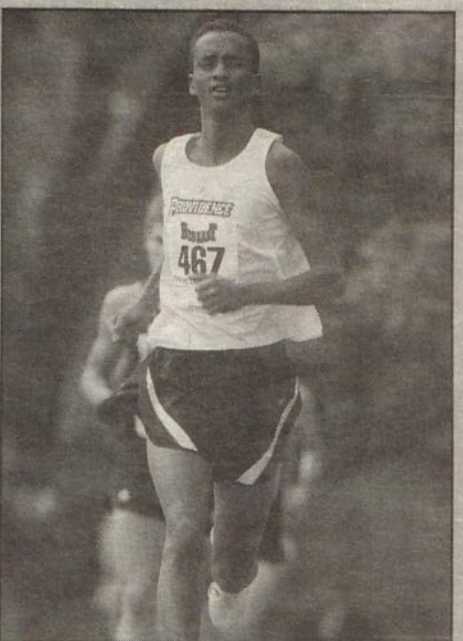
Another PC team in national polls

In the latest U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches' Association national poll, both the Men's and Women's Cross Country teams find themselves situated among the nation's elite. The men moved up three spots to No. 27 in their poll, while the women moved into the power 16 by climbing four spots from No. 20.

Additionally, both teams moved up in their regional polls as well. The women assumed the No. 1 ranking in the Northeast, swapping spots with Boston University. Meanwhile, the men trail just Iona in their regional rankings, moving up a spot to No. 2.

The Friars, off from competition for the past two weeks, will resume their schedule by traveling to South Bend, Ind., for the Notre Dame Invitational on Friday, Sept. 29.

—Greg Hartwell '07 & Kevin O'Brien '07



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

PC: Bulled over by USF and Marquette

continued from back page

from defeating No. 12 Connecticut on Friday, struck quickly, as junior forward Allison Mallams scored at the 8:27 mark. Mallams leads the Eagles with six goals and has collected 15 points this season.

At the 42:40 mark, senior Alison Loughrin connected for her first goal of the season to put Marquette up 2-0.

Even though the Friars were outshot 6-3 in the first half, they came out strong in the second, outshooting the Eagles 7-4. PC also had a 7-3 edge on the Eagles in corner kicks. PC's best chance for scoring came at 30:30, when junior midfielder Ashley Amaral saw her shot bounce off of the crossbar.

"That seems to be our luck," said McGirr. "That was about the fifth or sixth time this season we hit the post on a shot that could have tied or won the game for us."

Katelin Blaine made the first start of her career for Providence on Sunday. The freshmen forward almost scored for the Friars, as her shot hit the post with less than 16 minutes to play in the game.

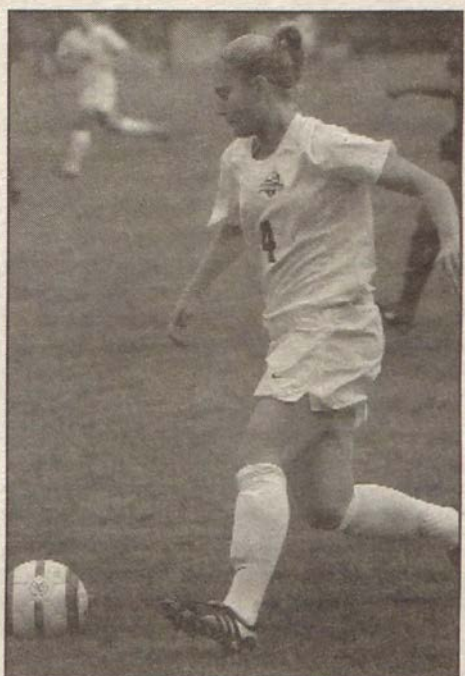
"Katelin has a great future and is a tremendous athlete," McGirr said. "Her pace allows for her to close down things that most players can't get to. As she gets stronger, and gains more experience, she will be a very good player for us."

Sunday's loss would be the Friars' first home loss of the season, as they fell to 3-3 on the year and 0-3 in Big East play. Though the Friars have struggled lately, the team remains optimistic about the remainder of their schedule.

"It is still early in the season and we

have a lot of winnable games left for us," said McGirr.

The Friars return to action this weekend, when they head out on the road again to take on Big East rivals Georgetown and No. 10 Villanova. The Friars will travel first to Georgetown on Friday, and then to Villanova on Sunday for a 1:00 game against the Wildcats.



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior defender Leah Viera and the Friars now stand at 3-3-3 on the season with an 0-3 mark in Big East play. The lone senior starter on the team, Viera captains a group that features three sophomores and three freshmen who start for the Friars.

Providence College LATE NIGHT MADNESS Is Coming!!!

FRIDAY OCTOBER 13th
Alumni Hall-Doors Open @ 9:30
Be part of the Friars 2006-2007 Season kick-off!

Post-game in McPhails

Classic Trax



Go see the Men's Hockey Game @7:00 then head on up to see CLASSIC TRAX play from 9:30-10:00!!

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Houses on Oakland, Pembroke, Eaton, Pinehurst, and Tyndall. Most have new bathrooms, new kitchens, hardwood floors, parking and laundry. Many also have phone, cable, and high speed internet connections in every room. Check out pictures on our web site or call 401-952-0966 for more details.

Friars close road trip with two wins

BY RYAN HOLT '09
SPORTS STAFF

After losing in overtime, it is often tough for teams to rebound. The task is especially difficult on the road. This was the challenge that the Providence College Men's Soccer team faced this past week.

MEN'S SOCCER

"The most important thing Coach told us was to get this loss out of our system. He didn't want us to dwell on it," said junior Ryan Maduro.

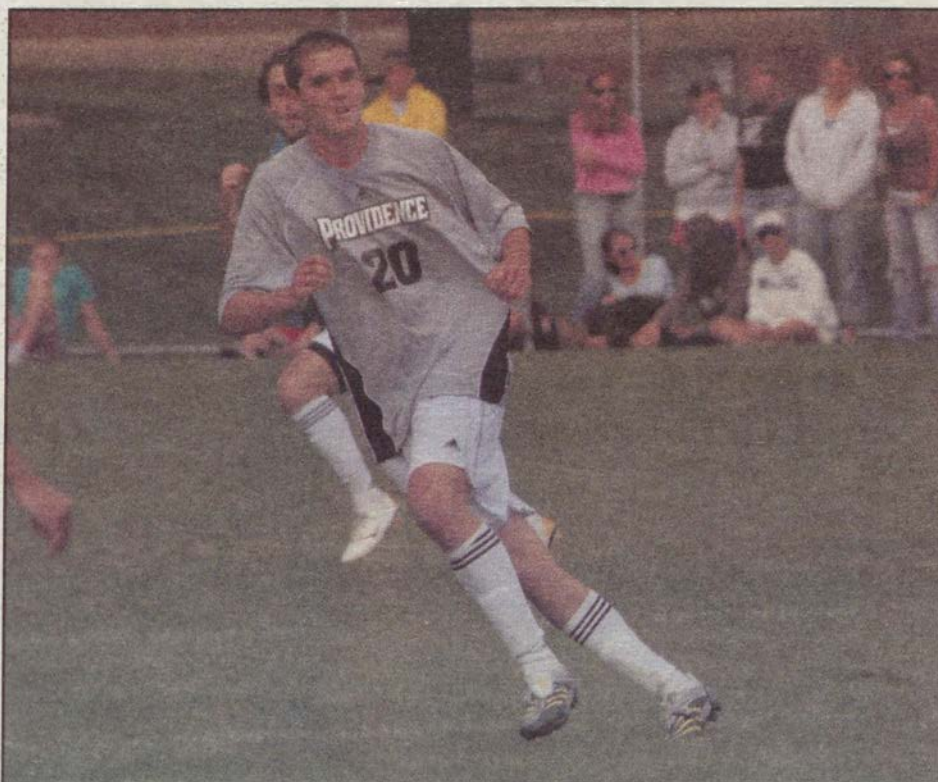
According to Maduro, "Let's get back to winning" was Head Coach Chaka Daley's statement to the team following the heartbreaker against St. John's. In the week's two road matches, the Friars did just that—showing promise and resolve by winning twice on the road. Saturday brought a 1-0 victory against Marquette, and Tuesday's match was a 3-2 win against Holy Cross.

"We were ready to fight back," said Maduro.

"Every game on the road, especially in the Big East, is very difficult. Both games were very challenging for us," said Daley.

Tuesday ended a four-game road stretch for the Friars. Being on the road has its challenges: On Tuesday the team faced unfriendly crowds and long delays in travel as well. On the trip to Milwaukee to play Marquette, the flight was delayed for more than three hours, hindering the team's ability to fully prepare.

Daley noted that winning despite the tiring stretch on the road is a testament to his team's resolve. The Friars finished 3-1 on the trip, an impressive mark, especially considering the caliber of opponents they faced.



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Is that Ole Gunnar Solksjaer? No, but it might as well be. PC's own supersub, freshman Jonathan Medcalf, netted the gamewinner against both Marquette and Holy Cross, and leads the Friars with four goals on the year.

Though not undefeated, this squad seems to be off to a better start than last year's. The 2005 Friars, one of the best—if not the best—in team history, is not the easiest act to follow. This year's team, however, has more wins than the one that preceded it because it yet to tie a match.

"We have found ways to win late in games," said Daley.

The offense has started stronger as well;

more goals, especially late in the game, have been scored. Daley attributes this to a collective effort.

"A lot of different people have contributed; we haven't relied on just one or two guys," he said. "All our forwards have caused problems [for the defense], creating opportunities for the rest."

The 1-0 victory against Marquette was certainly a defensive struggle. The game's

lone goal, scored by freshman Jonathan Medcalf late in the first half, won it for the Friars. Medcalf's performance earned him Big East Rookie of the Week honors.

Friar goalie and senior tri-captain Chris Konopka worked his third shutout of the 2006 campaign. In general, however, the Friars have not been as strong defensively as they were Saturday.

"I am concerned about our goals against—so far there have been nine this season," said Daley.

How to remedy the problem? Daley and players are not short of answers.

"We have to address our defense and limit opportunities for the other teams," Daley said.

"We need to fix our mentality on defense. We need to stay awake," added Maduro. "Defending is not just defenders, it's all of us. We can't get away from our blue-collar attitude."

The 3-2 victory against Holy Cross is the type of game Daley was referencing. Though they scored three times and won the game, the Friars conceded some goals on the defensive end that they shouldn't have.

"Throughout the game we never lost control. The only problem was we didn't put it away," said Maduro.

The Friars had the early lead courtesy of a 20th minute header from sophomore forward Tim Ritter. PC held the lead into the second half. Early on, however, Holy Cross struck back, tying the game. The tie didn't last long, as sophomore Kevin Neuman gave the Friars a 2-1 lead in the 54th minute. That lead lasted until just less than 10 minutes were left to be played when the Crusaders scored off a free kick.

FRIARS/Page 23

Can the Men's Soccer team take home the Big East title this year?



Check out this week's PCI, where Ryan Holt '09 and Kevin O'Brien '07 wrestle with the question of just how good this year's Friars are. Did the graduation of so many seniors hurt this team or can the newcomers pick up the slack? See page 22 for the answers.

Unlucky double double for PC in Big East play

BY MIKE SPRINGER '08
SPORTS STAFF

Big East play has not been kind to the Providence College Women's Soccer team, which has lost eight of its last 10 games against conference opponents. That trend would continue this weekend, as the Friars lost 2-0 to both South Florida and Marquette.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

On Friday, Providence opened their weekend against South Florida in Tampa. Once again, the Friars defense was impressive, as they held the Bulls to only five shots in the first half. Junior goalkeeper Laura Elfers recorded three saves for the Friars, helping to keep the game scoreless until the second half. Elfers would finish the game with five saves.

However, the Bulls' offense would take over in the second half, when sophomore Ebony Robinson scored her second goal of the season to put USF up 1-0 in the 65th minute of the game. The Bulls would strike again 23 minutes later when junior defender Jeannette Dyer scored off of a free kick to give the Bulls their second goal of the game.

While South Florida has been one of the better offensive teams in the conference,

having already tallied 16 goals so far this year, finding the net has been an issue for this young Friars team, as they are still adjusting to a new system of play. The Friars are using a 4-5-1 system, which Head Coach Jim McGirr believes will benefit the team on many levels.

"We are using a new system which gives us more protection on defense and also allows for us to run at the other team more," he said.

McGirr said he hopes that as the team becomes more acclimated to the new system of play, it will lead to more goals and stronger defensive play from the team.

On Saturday, the Friars' bad luck would continue, as their flight was delayed. Providence would have to wait until 8:00 p.m. that night before returning home to prepare for their 1:00 p.m. game the next day against Marquette.

While the Friars would fall 2-0 to Marquette, McGirr was still proud of his team and what they had accomplished—especially under the circumstances.

"This team handles adversity well," McGirr said. "It really shows what this team is about."

Marquette, coming in full of momentum

PC/Page 23

Field Hockey beats Bears, scales Ivy

BY ERIN REDIHAN '08
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Revenge is sweet. Last year's match between the Providence College (10-1) field hockey team and the University of Maine (3-6) ended in a tough 5-3 home loss for the Friars. This year PC went in looking to turn the tables on its rival.

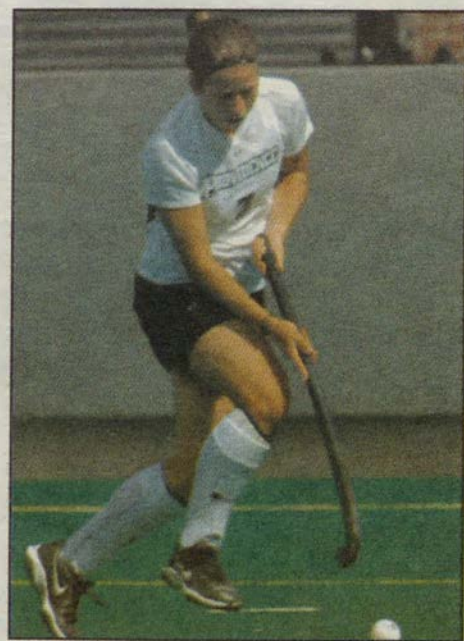
FIELD HOCKEY

"Since I was an assistant at Maine for almost nine years, there's always a little extra personal feeling when we play them," said Providence Head Coach Diane Madl. "The rivalry really comes in that it's always a battle with Maine. We went into overtime three out of the first four years we played them."

No overtime was needed this year to decide the contest. On Saturday, the Friars got their chance to beat the Black Bears on their home turf, as they won 4-1 thanks to a great second half.

The Friars drew first blood when freshman Nellie Poulin fed sophomore Meghan Holden for her third goal this season. Providence goalie Rachel Chamberlain stopped five Maine first half shots that came her way.

Providence struck again early in the first half when junior Abby Maguire scored in the 43rd minute off Poulin's second assist of the game. This marked the second straight game where Poulin added two assists. The Friars' second goal was followed four minutes later by the Black Bears' lone goal, tallied by Katie Flaherty



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Senior Emily Ewens and the Friars rose to No. 15 in the national rankings this past week.

off an assist from Kristina Healy.

"After [Maine] scored, we had to make sure we came out to play consistent, good hockey. We stayed effective and, luckily, we were able to capitalize on some opportunities late in the game."

PC senior Melissa McGow registered the final two points for the Friars in her first multiple goal game of the season.

FH/Page 22